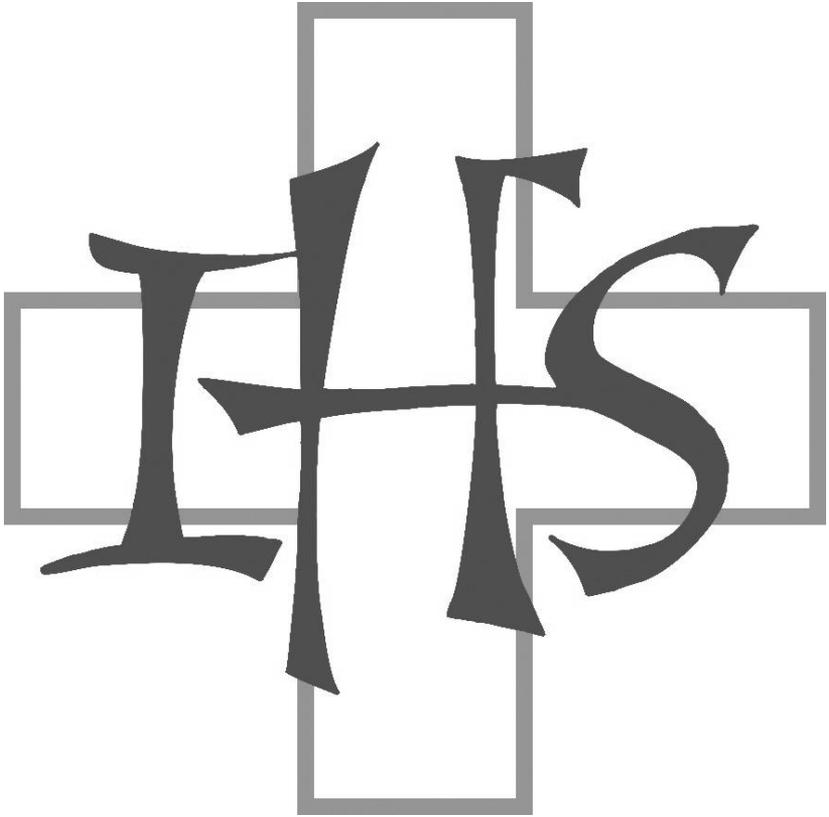


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



Order of Worship

February 8, 2026 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>

Rev. Nils Niemeier, Pastor

email: pastor@lcsavior.org

Introit

Psalm 119:9–16; antiphon: v. 12

Blessèd are you, O LORD;
teach me your statutes!
How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.
With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your commandments!
I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.
Blessèd are you, O LORD;
teach me your statutes!
With my lips I declare
all the just decrees of your mouth.
In the way of your testimonies I delight
as much as in all riches.
I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.
I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.
*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.*
Blessèd are you, O LORD;
teach me your statutes!

Communion Theology and Practice

Please see our statement of Communion Theology and Practice on the back page of the worship bulletin.

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.

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Divine Service

Welcome

Stand

Song

Our God Saves

Baloche, Brown

Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus 2, Instrumental, Verse 2B, Chorus 2

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of ten staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a 'VERSE' label at the beginning of the second staff, a repeat sign at the end of the first staff, and various musical notations such as rests, beams, and slurs. The lyrics are: 'In the Name of the Fa - ther, in the Name of the Son, in the Name of the Spir - it, Lord, we come; We're gath - er'd to - geth - er to lift up Your Name to call on our Sav - ior, to fall on Your grace. In the Name of the - grace; Hear the joy - ful sound of our of - fer - ing as Your saints bow down as Your'.

In the Name of the

3 VERSE
Fa - ther, in the Name of the Son, in the Name of the

5 Spir - it, Lord, we come; We're gath - er'd to -

7 geth - er to lift up Your Name to call on our

9 Sav - ior, to fall on Your grace.

11 In the Name of the -

13 2.3 §
grace; Hear the joy - ful sound of our

15
of - fer - ing as Your saints bow down as Your

continued on next page

17
peo - ple sing; We will rise with You, lift - ed

19
on Your wings, and the world will see that

21 CHORUS
Our God saves, our God saves;

25
There is hope in Your Name. In the Name of the

30
Name; Mourn - ing turns to songs of praise;

35
Our God saves, our God saves. Hear the

41 CODA
Our God saves; Our God saves; Our God saves. Our God saves.

Confession and Absolution

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 ✠ 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.**

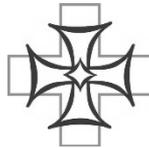
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**



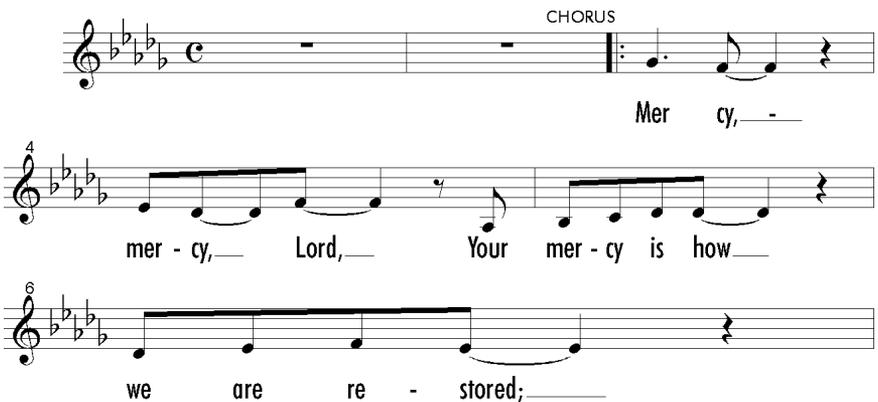
Song

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; _____

continued on next page

7
Mer - cy, Mer - cy, Oh Christ,

9
VERSE
help us to show Your mer-cy, Lord.

12
1. You have been pa - tient with our of - fen -
2. Lord, You have taught us, "Love one an - oth -

15
ses, You have for - giv - en all of our sins;
er," As You have loved us, so we must love;

17
We were de - serv - ing on - ly Your judge -
Al - ways for - bear - ing, al - ways for - giv -

19
1 CHORUS
ment, but Your great mer - cy tri - umphed a - gain.
ing, show - ing to o -

22
2
Mer - cy,
thers the mer-cy we've known.

25
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.

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 112:1–9; antiphon: v. 4

- A** Together, we speak Psalm 112 responsively:

*Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.*

¹Praise the LORD!

Blessèd is the man who fears the LORD,
who greatly delights in his commandments!

**²His offspring will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches are in his house,
and his righteousness endures forever.

**⁴Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

⁵It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;
who conducts his affairs with justice.

**⁶For the righteous will never be moved;
he will be remembered forever.**

⁷He is not afraid of bad news;
his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.

**⁸His heart is steady; he will not be afraid,
until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.**

⁹He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever;
his horn is exalted in honor.



G **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.**

*⁴Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.*

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 58:3–9a

³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?’

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day
will not make your voice to be heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day for a person to humble himself?

Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?

Will you call this a fast,
and a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 2:1–16

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him"—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:13–20

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

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

¹³[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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

Let the Peace of God Reign

Zschech

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

Verse



Fa - ther of life, draw me clos - er,
O, Ho - ly Spir - it, You're my com - fort,



Lord, my heart is set on You; Let me
strength - en me, hold my head up high; And I'll



run the race of time, with Your life en - fold - ing mine, and let the
stand up on Your truth, bringing glo - ry un - to You, and let the



peace of God, let it reign,
peace of God, let it reign.

Chorus



O Lord, I hun - ger for more of You,



Rise up with - in me let me know Your truth;



O, Ho - ly Spi - it, sat - u - rate my soul, and let the



life of God fill me now, let Your

heal - ing pow'r bring_ life and make me whole, and let the
 peace of God, let it reign. *Fine*

Sermon

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.

The response after each petition is as follows:

- L** Lord, in your mercy,
G hear our prayer.
- G** 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 See the Lord

Chisum/Moen

Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus

✂ CHORUS

I see the Lord, I see the Lord ex - alt - ed
high up - on the wor - ship of the peo - ple of the earth;
— I see the Lord, I see the Lord, my
eyes have seen the King, the Lamb up - on the throne.

Last time to Coda

VERSE

train of His robe fills the tem - ple, a
cloud of heav'n - ly wor - ship - ers sur - round - ing His

throne; We join with them now cry - ing,
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lamb, the
 Lamb a - lone." I see the
 ◆ Coda Fine
 ev - er - more.



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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Resources for Meditation this Week

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

8 February 2026

Readings

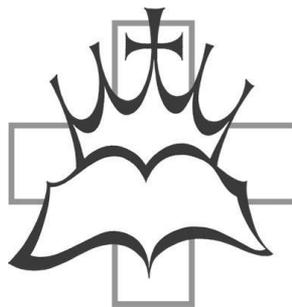
Isaiah 58:3–9a

1 Corinthians 2:1–12 (13–16)

Matthew 5:13–20

The Righteousness of Christ

Jesus warns that *“unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven”* (Matt. 5:20), but He also calls His imperfect people *“the salt of the earth”* and *“the light of the world”* (Matt. 5:13, 14). That’s because the Lord Jesus came not to abolish the Law or the prophets, *“but to fulfill them”* (Matt. 5:17) in perfect faith and love. Since He does and teaches all of God’s commandments, He is *“called great in the kingdom of heaven”* (Matt. 5:19). God manifests His *“demonstration of the Spirit and of power”* in *“Jesus Christ and him crucified”* (1 Cor. 2:2–4), and through the preaching of the Gospel He gives His *“secret and hidden wisdom”* (1 Cor. 2:7). Christ gives this perfect righteousness to His people, and it leads them to true fasting, which is *“to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free”* (Is. 58:6) and *“to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house”* (Is. 58:7).



Readings

Exodus 24:8–18

2 Peter 1:16–21

Matthew 17:1–9

God Manifests His Glory in the Body of Christ Jesus, Transfigured for Us by His Cross

The Transfiguration confirms *“the prophetic word ... to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place”* (2 Peter 1:19). The divine glory of Jesus is manifested in the word of His apostles, who were *“eyewitnesses of his majesty”* (2 Peter 1:16). *“He was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun”* (Matt. 17:2). Moses and Elijah witnessed the fulfillment of the Old Testament in this Lord Jesus, and the Father testified concerning Him: *“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased”* (Matt. 17:5). By His own blood, shed on the cross, Jesus makes and seals the new covenant with us. Hence, *“the appearance of the glory of the LORD”* is no longer *“like a devouring fire”* (Ex. 24:17), but it is graciously revealed in His own body. As *“Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel”* went up the mountain with Moses and *“beheld God, and ate and drank”* (Ex. 24:9, 11), we also behold the Lord our God in Christ Jesus, and we abide with Him as we eat and drink His body and blood at the altar.



Communion Theology and Practice

Welcome! In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life (Matthew 26:26-28). In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant should examine him or herself and come to the Lord's Table seeking these things. As the Small Catechism teaches, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'" We likewise take seriously St. Paul's admonition in 1 Corinthians 11:27-30 regarding recognizing the Lord's Body and Blood in this sacrament and receiving it worthily. We also believe that Holy Communion is a profession of confessional unity in which all who commune at the Lord's Table are united in their confession and faith (1 Corinthians 11:26).

Therefore, we practice what is often called "closed communion," in which we invite those Christians who have been baptized and instructed in the Christian faith, who share in the same confession of faith as the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and who believe that Jesus offers here His true Body and Blood, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine, for the strengthening of their bodies and souls, cleansing them of their old nature and giving them new life, to join us at His table.

If you are new here, have not been baptized, or have not received instruction with regard to the teachings of the Lutheran Church regarding the Lord's Supper, have doubts about the nature of the sacrament, or have questions, please introduce yourself to our pastor before the service. He will be happy to discuss these things with you and help determine whether or not you should commune. If you do not wish to commune, have not been baptized, or have not been instructed in the Christian faith, we invite you to come receive a blessing. When you come to the altar, please come forward with your arms crossed to indicate that you would like the pastor to bless you. If you would like to learn more about the Christian faith or wish to be baptized, please speak to our pastor!