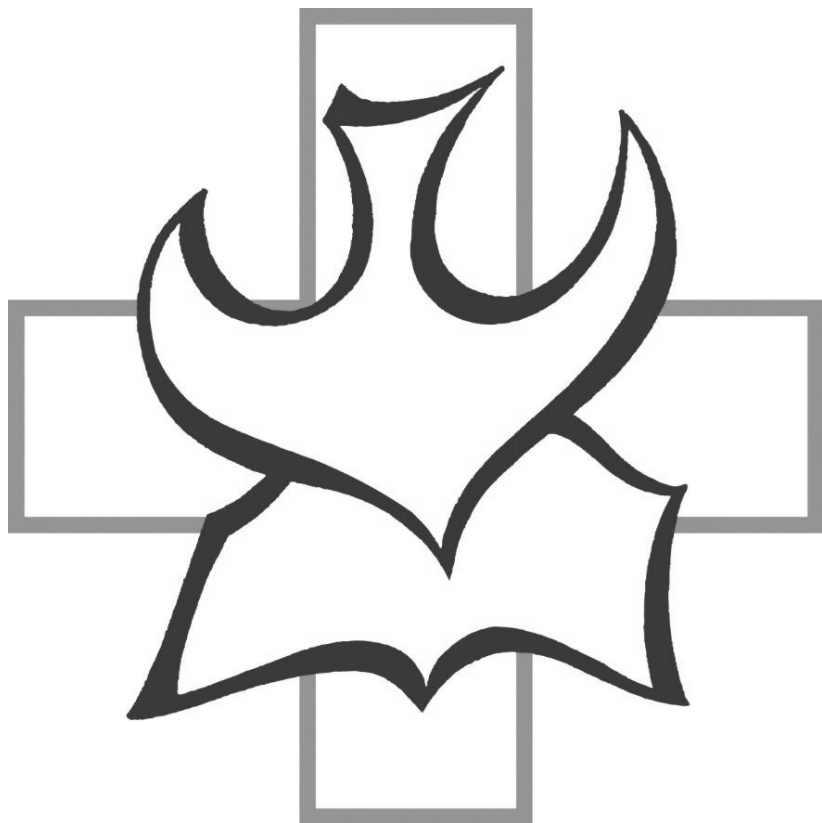


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



Order of Worship

July 12, 2026 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

Introit

Psalm 103:15–19; antiphon: v. 8

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
As for man, his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower of the field;
for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.
But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on
those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.
The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.

**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.**

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

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.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Service

Welcome

Stand

Song 10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord) Redman/Myrin

Chorus, Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus, Instrumental, Verse 3, Chorus x2, Tag

Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul.

Wor-ship His ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,

oh, my soul. I wor-ship Your ho - ly name.

1. The sun comes up. It's a new day dawn-ing.

It's time to sing Your song a - gain. What -

ev - er may pass and what - ev - er lies be - fore me,

let me be sing-ing when the ev'n - ing comes.

Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul.

continued on next page



Wor-ship His ho - ly name.

Sing like nev - er be-fore,



oh, my soul.

I wor-ship Your ho - ly name.



2. You're rich in love and You're slow to ang - er. Your



name is great

and Your heart is kind.

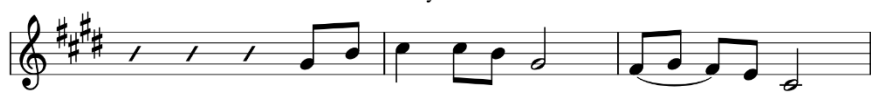
For



all Your good-ness I will keep on sing - ing



ten thou-sand reasons for my heart to find.



Bless the Lord, oh, my soul,

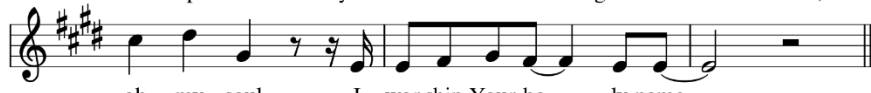
oh,

my soul.



Wor-ship His ho - ly name.

Sing like nev - er be-fore,



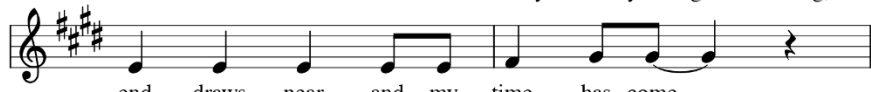
oh, my soul.

I wor-ship Your ho - ly name.

Instrumental



3. And on that day when my strength is fail-ing, the



end draws near and my time has come,



still my soul will sing Your praise un - end - ing

ten thousand years and then for - ev - er more.

Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul.

Wor-ship His ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,

oh, my soul. I wor-ship Your ho - ly name. Bless the

wor-ship Your ho - ly name. Yes, I will

wor-ship Your ho - ly name. Lord, I

wor-ship Your ho - ly name.

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** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Kneel/Stand

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

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.**

Stand

Song

Change My Heart, O God

Espinosa

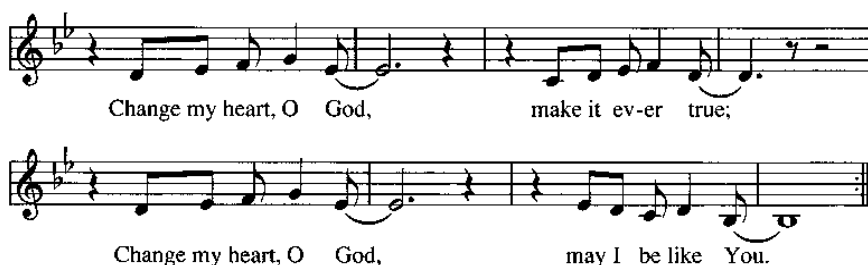
Sing twice through

Change my heart, O God, make it ev-er true;

Change my heart, O God, may I be like You.

You are the Pot - ter, I am the clay;

Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.



Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 65

A Together, we speak Psalm 65 responsively:

¹Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion,
and to you shall vows be performed.

**²O you who hears prayer,
to you shall all flesh come.**

³When iniquities prevail against me,
you atone for our transgressions.

**⁴Blessèd is the one you choose and bring near,
to dwell in your courts!**

**We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
the holiness of your temple!**

⁵By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas;

**⁶the one who by his strength established the mountains,
being girded with might;**

⁷who stills the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples,

**⁸so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth
are in awe at your signs.**

**You make the going out of the morning and the evening
to shout for joy.**

⁹You visit the earth and water it;
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide their grain,
for so you have pre- pared it.

¹⁰**You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.**

¹¹You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

¹²**The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird them- selves with joy,**

¹³the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
the valleys deck them- selves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.

**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.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting 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.

Blessing of the Pulpit

P Our Lord Jesus Christ preached and taught repentance and the forgiveness of sins, and after His resurrection sent His disciples out, saying: "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation."

P Let us pray.
O Lord God, Your Son stepped into Simon Peter's boat and from it taught the crowds, thus making it a pulpit. Bless this pulpit that from it Your saving and merciful Word may be proclaimed and many may be brought to eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P The Lord Almighty, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this pulpit.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:10–13

¹⁰"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²"For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 8:12–17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

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

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

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or

persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

LSB 158

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.

Sit

Song

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Townend

Verse 1, Verse 2, Verse 3



1. How deep the Fa - ther's love for us, how
(2.Be) - hold the Man up - on the cross, my
(3.I) will not boast in any - y - thing; no

vast sin gifts, be - yond all meas - ure that
up - on His shoul - ders. A -
no pow'r, no wis - dome. But

He shamed, I should give His on - ly Son voice to call
I will hear boast in my mock - ing Je - sus Christ: His

make a wretch His treas - ure. How
out a - mong the scof - fers. It
death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why

great was the pain of that sear - ing loss. The
was my sin that held Him there un -
should I gain from His re - ward? I

Fa - ther turns His face a - way as
til it was ac - com - plished; His
can - not give an an - swer. But

wounds which mar the Cho - sen One bring
dy - ing breath has brought me life. I
this I know with all my heart: His
man - y sons to glo - - - ry. 2. Be -
know that it is fin - - - ished. 3. I
wounds have paid my ran - - - som.

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- 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.

Lord's Prayer

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

G 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.

Sit

Song

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Rodgers, Wyse

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



1. Won - der - ful, mer - ci - ful Sav - ior,

Pre - cious Re - deem - er and Friend,

Who would have thought that a Lamb could

Res - cue the souls of man, Oh, You

res - cue the souls of man.

2. Coun - sel - or, -
3. Al - might - y,
4. Won - der - ful,

com - fort - er, keep - er Spir - it we
in - fi - nite Fa - er Faith - ful - ly
mer - ci - ful Sav - ior, Pre - cious Re -

long to em - brace, You of - fer hope
lov - ing Your own; Here in our weak -
deem - er and Friend, Who would have thought -

30 when ness that our You hearts find Lamb have us could hope - less - ly fall - ing be - res - cue the

34 lost fore souls our Your of way, throne, man, Oh, Oh, Oh, we've we're You hope - less - ly fall - ing be - res - cue the

38 CHORUS
lost fore souls the Your way. throne. man. You are the one

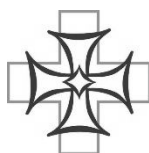
42 that we praise, You are the one

46 we a - dore, You give the heal -

50 ing and grace our hearts al - ways

54 hun - ger for, Oh, our hearts al - ways

58 hun - ger for.



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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“10,000 Reasons” - words and music by Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman

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Resources for Meditation this Week

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

12 July 2026

Readings

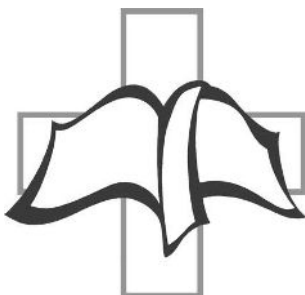
Isaiah 55:10–13

Romans 8:12–17

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

The Preaching of the Word of Christ Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love

As *"the rain and the snow come down from heaven"* and *"water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout"* (Is. 55:10), so the Word of God accomplishes the purpose for which He speaks it, granting joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name. Christ Jesus, the incarnate Word, has established the name of the Lord as *"an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off"* (Is. 55:13). He opens our ears to hear, our minds to understand and our hearts to believe His Word, lest the evil one come and snatch it away. He thus transforms our rocky hearts into good soil, which clings to the Gospel and *"indeed bears fruit"* (Matt. 13:23). He is Himself the firstfruits of all who *"have received the Spirit of adoption as sons"* (Rom. 8:15). Thus being *"led by the Spirit of God,"* we are not afraid, but we cry out in faith to our Father in heaven (Rom. 8:14–15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we *"also be glorified with him"* (Rom. 8:17).



Readings

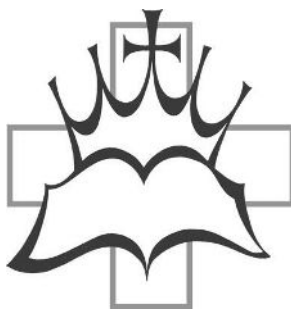
Isaiah 44:6–8

Romans 8:18–27

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

The Word of the Gospel Bestows the Righteousness of Christ and Brings Forth Faith

The good Seed, which is *"the Son of Man,"* Jesus Himself (Matt. 13:37), brings forth a harvest of faith and bears good fruits in *"the sons of the kingdom"* (Matt. 13:38). Whatever is sown apart from His Word is of the devil, who plants the weeds of unbelief and sin, even among the people of God. Thankfully, the Lord is patient and He does not uproot the weeds, lest the plants also be destroyed. He lets *"both grow together until the harvest"* (Matt. 13:30), while He continues to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins. Thus, He preserves His Church in righteousness, because He alone is *"the King of Israel and his Redeemer"* (Is. 44:6). Since all things are in His gracious care and keeping, *"fear not, nor be afraid"* (Is. 44:8). For *"the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God"* (Rom. 8:19), and in this hope we also wait with patience. Though we do not yet see it, *"the Spirit helps us in our weakness"* (Rom. 8:26) and, in truth, *"the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us"* (Rom. 8:18).



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!