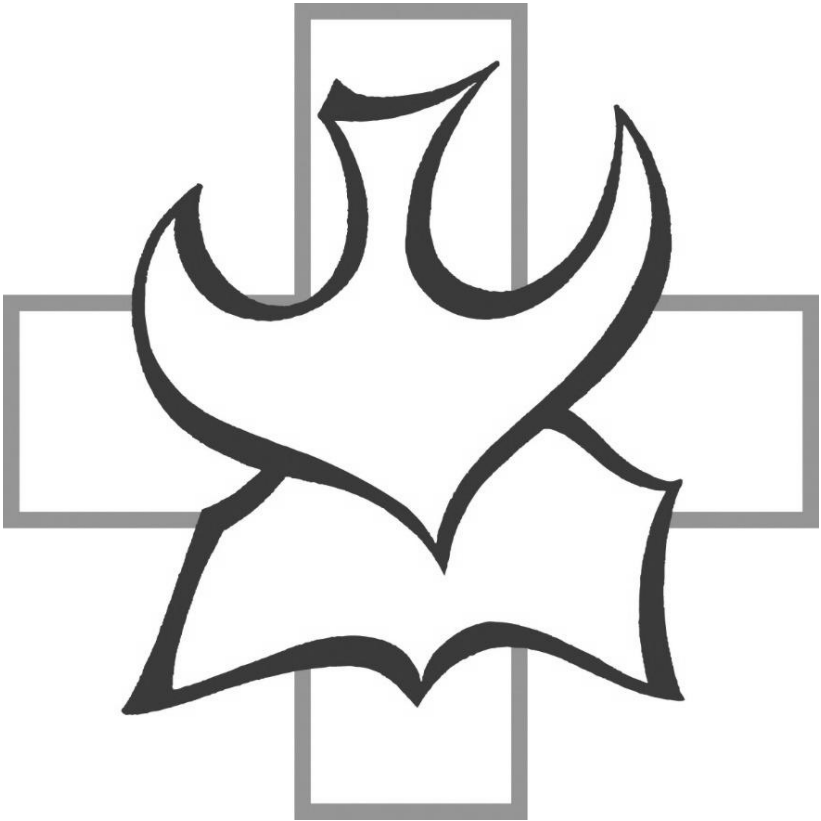


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



Order of Worship

July 19, 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 86:11–15; antiphon: v. 6

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;

listen to my plea for grace.

Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth;

unite my heart to fear your name.

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

and I will glorify your name forever.

For great is your steadfast love toward me;

you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men
seek my life,

and they do not set you before them.

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

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.

Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;

listen to my plea for grace.

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.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Service, Setting One

Welcome

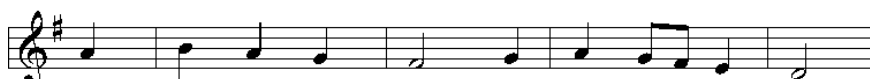
Stand

O Worship the King

LSB 804



1 O wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
2 O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
3 This earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
4 Thy boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?



O grate - ful - ly sing His pow'r and His love;
Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
Al - might - y, Thy pow'r hath found - ed of old,
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,



Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
Es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,



Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.
And round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
And sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.

5 Frail children of dust and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend!

6 O measureless MIGHT, ineffable Love,
While angels delight to hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to Thy praise.

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

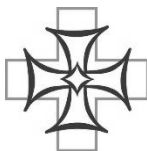
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

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

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalms 119:57–64; antiphon: v. 89



A Together, we sing Psalm 119 responsively:

HETH

⁵⁷The LORD is my | portion;*

I promise to | keep your words.

58 I entreat your favor with | all my heart;*

be gracious to me according to your | promise.

⁵⁹When I think | on my ways,*

I turn my feet to your testi- | monies;

⁶⁰I hasten and do | not delay*

to keep your com- | mandments.

⁶¹Though the cords of the wicked en- | snare me,*

I do not for- | get your law.

⁶²**At midnight I rise to | praise you,***

because of your just and right- | teous decrees.

⁶³I am a companion of all who | fear you,*

of those who keep your | precepts.

⁶⁴The earth, O LORD, is full of your | steadfast love;*

teach me your | statutes!

C Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Kyrie

LSB 152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



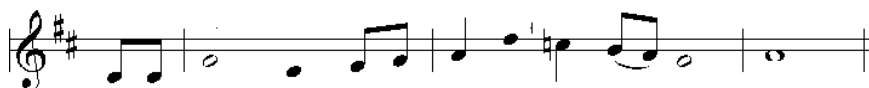
C A - men.

This Is the Feast

LSB 155



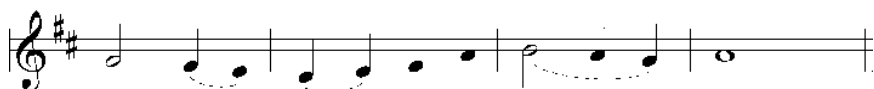
C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



- 1 — Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion; *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



Final Refrain
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

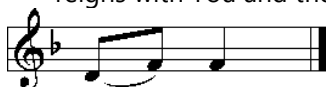
P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 44:6–8

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
"I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
⁷Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.
Let him declare and set it before me,
since I appointed an ancient people.
Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.
⁸Fear not, nor be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
And you are my witnesses!
Is there a God besides me?
There is no Rock; I know not any."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 8:18–27

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" . . .

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his

angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

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.

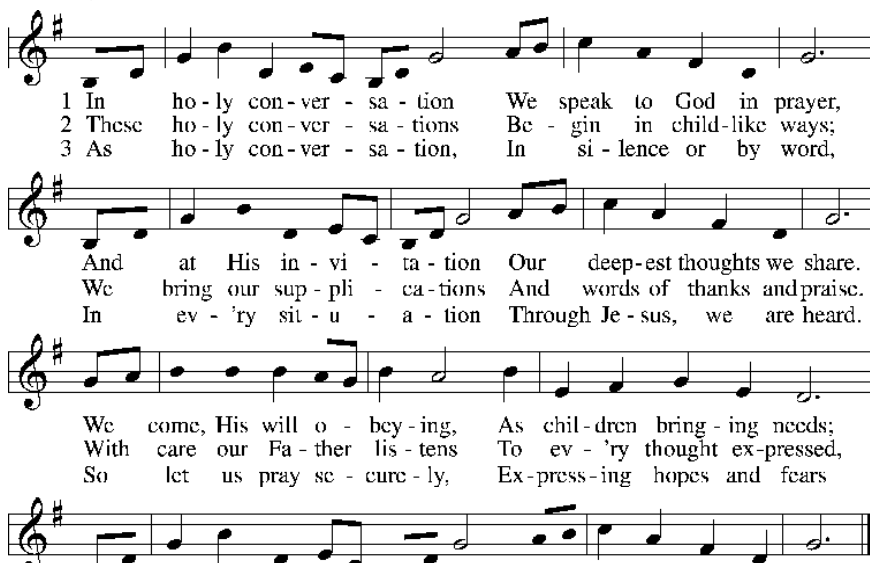
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
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

In Holy Conversation

LSB 772



1 In ho - ly con - ver - sa - tion We speak to God in prayer,
 2 These ho - ly con - ver - sa - tions Be - gin in child-like ways;
 3 As ho - ly con - ver - sa - tion, In si - lence or by word,

And at His in - vi - ta - tion Our deep - est thoughts we share.
 We bring our sup - pli - ca - tions And words of thanks and praise.
 In ev - 'ry sil - u - a - tion Through Je - sus, we are heard.

We come, His will o - bey - ing, As chil - dren bring - ing needs;
 With care our Fa - ther lis - tens To ev - 'ry thought ex - pressed,
 So let us pray se - cure - ly, Ex - press - ing hopes and fears

And to sup - port our pray - ing, His Spir - it in - ter - cedes.
 Then an - swers our pe - ti - tions In ways He knows are best.
 With con - fi - dence that sure - ly Our Fa - ther ev - er hears.

Text: Gregory J. Wismar, 1946

Tune: Swedish

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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:

C Hear our prayer.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

- 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.

Sit

Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You

LSB 668



1 Rise! To arms! With prayer em-ploy you, O Chris-tians, lest the
2 Cast a - far this world's vain plea - sure And bold - ly strive for
3 Wise - ly fight, for time is fleet - ing; The hours of grace are



foe de-destroy you; For Sa - tan has de-signed your fall.
heav'n-ly trea - sure. Be stead-fast in the Sav - ior's might.
fast re-treat - ing; Short, short is this our earth - ly way.



Wield God's Word, the weap - on glo - rious; A - gainst all foes be
Trust the Lord, who stands be - side you, For Je - sus from all
When the Lord the dead will wak - en And sin - ners all by



thus vic - to - rious, For God pro-protects you from them all.
harm will hide you. By faith you con-quer in the fight.
fear are shak - en, The saints with joy will greet that day.



Fear not the hordes of hell, Here is Em - man - u - el.
Take cour - age, wea - ry soul! Look for - ward to the goal!
Praise God, our tri - umph's sure. We need not long en-dure



Hail the Sav - ior! The strong foes yield To Christ, our shield,
Joy a - waits you. The race well run, Your long war won,
Scorn and tri - al. Our Sav - ior King His own will bring



And we, the vic - tors, hold the field.
Your crown shines splen - did as the sun.
To that great glo - ry which we sing.

Text: Wilhelm Erasmus Arends, 1677–1721; tr. John M. Sloan, 1835–after 1890, alt.
Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608. Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Resources for Meditation this Week

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

19 July 2026

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).



Readings

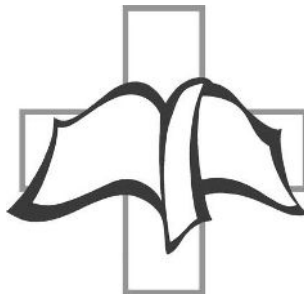
Deuteronomy 7:6–9

Romans 8:28–39

Matthew 13:44–52

The Son of God Has Redeemed Us for Himself with His Holy and Precious Blood

The Lord our God has chosen us to be *"his treasured possession,"* not because of any strength in us, but solely *"because the LORD loves"* us (Deut. 7:6–8). He is faithful, and He *"keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments"* (Deut. 7:9). He has searched for us and found us in love, and He has bestowed on us *"great value"* by the great price that He has paid on the cross (Matt. 13:45–46). In His joy, He has redeemed us by His cross and gathered us into His kingdom by the Gospel. Now we are *"hidden in a field,"* covered by the cross and subject to the persecution of the world (Matt. 13:44), not for destruction, but *"to be conformed to the image of his Son"* (Rom. 8:29). Since we *"are called according to his purpose"* (Rom. 8:28), and because Christ Jesus died, rose again and lives to intercede for us *"at the right hand of God"* (Rom. 8:34), there is nothing in all creation that can separate us from *"the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Rom. 8:39).



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!