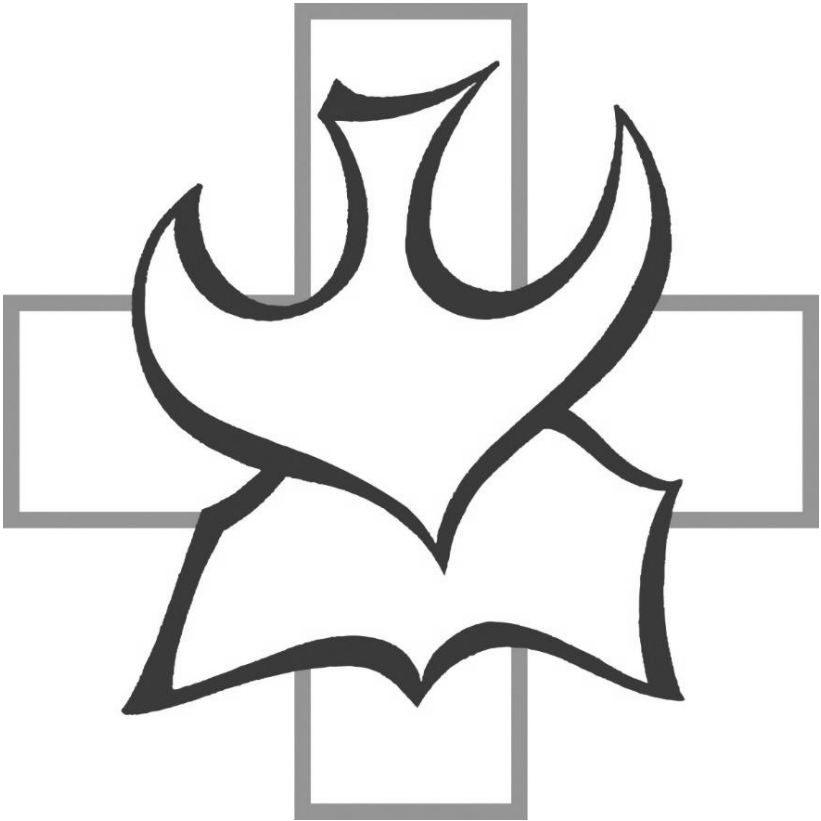


# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



## Order of Worship

*October 18, 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](mailto:pastor@lcsavior.org)

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## Introit

*Psalm 121:1-4, 7-8; antiphon: v. 5*

The LORD is your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.  
I lift up my eyes to the hills.  
From where does my help come?  
My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.  
He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.  
Behold, he who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.  
The LORD will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.  
The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in  
from this time forth and forevermore.  
*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 your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

## 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.*

# Twenty-first 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*

The musical score is written on ten staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a chorus, two verses, and a tag. The lyrics are: Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul. Worship His ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore, oh, my soul. I worship 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.

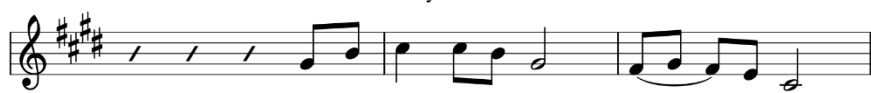
For



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,

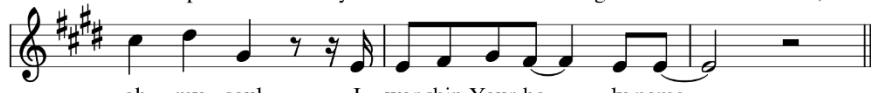
oh,

my soul.



Wor-ship His ho - ly name.

Sing like nev - er be-fore,



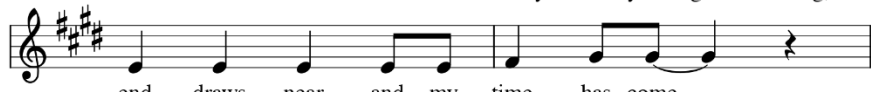
oh, my soul.

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  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

**Song**

You Forgave Me

*Goodgame*

*The Congregation joins on the Chorus*

Psalm 32:1-4a, 5 (NLT)

*Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight! Yes, what joy for those whose record the Lord has cleared of guilt, whose lives are lived in complete honesty! When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long. Day and night your hand of discipline was heavy on me. Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, "I will confess my rebellion to the Lord."*

*[Chorus – repeated] And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.*

## Service of the Word

### Psalm

*Psalm 96:1–9*

- A** Together, we speak Psalm 96 responsively:

<sup>1</sup>Oh sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth!

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to the LORD, bless his name;  
tell of his salvation from day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous works among all the peoples!

<sup>4</sup>**For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;  
he is to be feared above all gods.**

<sup>5</sup>For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,  
but the LORD made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>**Splendor and majesty are before him;  
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

<sup>8</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
bring an offering, and come into his courts!**

<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;  
tremble before him, all the earth!

- 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.

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; 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

*Isaiah 45:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whose right hand I have grasped,  
to subdue nations before him  
and to loose the belts of kings,  
to open doors before him  
that gates may not be closed:  
<sup>2</sup>"I will go before you  
and level the exalted places,  
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze  
and cut through the bars of iron,  
<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness  
and the hoards in secret places,  
that you may know that it is I, the LORD,  
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.  
<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob,  
and Israel my chosen,  
I call you by your name,  
I name you, though you do not know me.  
<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other,  
besides me there is no God;  
I equip you, though you do not know me,  
<sup>6</sup>that people may know, from the rising of the sun  
and from the west, that there is none besides me;  
I am the LORD, and there is no other.  
<sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness,  
I make well-being and create calamity,  
I am the LORD, who does all these things."

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*1 Thessalonians 1:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,  
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord  
Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. <sup>9</sup>For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

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

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

*Stand*

## **Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 22:15–22*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

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

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. <sup>16</sup>And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" <sup>21</sup>They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them,

"Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

**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.

# Song

## Speak, O Lord

Getty, Townend



1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re -  
2. Teach us Lord full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly  
3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us



ceive the food of Your ho - ly word. Take Your truth, plant it  
rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts and our  
grasp the heights of Your plans for us. Truths un - changed from the



deep in us; Shape and fash - ion us in Your like - ness, that the  
at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of Your pu - ri - ty. Cause our  
dawn of time, that will e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of love and our  
faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic love and au -  
grace we'll stand on Your prom - is - es; And by faith we'll walk as You



deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill in us all Your  
thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail; Let their  
walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the



pur - pos - es, for Your glo - ry.  
truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.  
earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

# 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

- 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

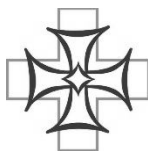
and the power and the glory

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*

**Song****You Make Me Lie Down in Green Pastures**

Zuziak

*Chorus, Instrumental Interlude, Chorus, Tag*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, while the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "You make me lie down in green pastures, You make me want - ing for noth - ing, You fill my hun - ger with hon - ey from Your sweet, sweet Word; You let me wor - ship be - fore - You, so I will love and a - dore - You, You are my Shep - herd, You are my Je - sus, You are my Lord." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, half notes, and full notes, as well as rests and dynamic markings. The piano part provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines.

You make me lie down in green pas -

tures, You make me want - ing for noth -

ing, You fill my hun - ger with hon - ey from Your

sweet, sweet Word; You let me wor - ship be - fore -

You, so I will love and a - dore - You, You are my Shep -

herd, You are my Je - sus, You are my Lord.

## Acknowledgments

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“10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)” words and music by Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman

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# Resources for Meditation this Week

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

18 October 2026

### Readings

Isaiah 45:1–7

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

Matthew 22:15–22

### ***We Are Recreated in the Image of God by the Cross of Christ***

Plotting against Jesus, the Pharisees attempted “to entangle him in his words” by asking about the payment of taxes to Caesar (Matt. 22:15). The Lord pointed to coins required for the tax, and He answered that we should “render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s” (Matt. 22:21). But if coins bearing the image of Caesar should be rendered to him, then man — who is made in the image of God — must be rendered to the Lord. That tax is paid for us by the Lord Jesus, the image of God in the flesh, by His self-offering on the cross. And from His cross, as the Lord’s anointed, He reigns as the true Caesar over all nations “from the rising of the sun and from the west” (Is. 45:6). The Lord once called and anointed Cyrus “to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings” (Is. 45:1). Now by the preaching of the Gospel, “in power and in the Holy Spirit” (1 Thess. 1:5), foreigners from all over the world are “turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God” (1 Thess. 1:9–10).



**Readings**

Revelation 14:6–7

Romans 3:19–28

John 8:31–36 or Matthew 11:12–19

***The Son of God Has Set Us Free from Sin and Death by His Grace***

*"Wisdom is justified by her deeds"* (Matt. 11:19), and the true wisdom of God, Christ Jesus, the incarnate Son, justifies us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, in order that we may eat and drink with Him in His Kingdom and *"remain in the house forever"* (John 8:35). He is *"a friend of tax collectors and sinners"* (Matt. 11:18–19), and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel *"to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people"* (Rev. 14:6), *"the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law"* (Rom. 3:21), *"that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus"* (Rom. 3:26). And by the hearing of that Gospel of Christ Jesus, *"whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith"* (Rom. 3:25), *"you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free"* (John 8:31–32).



## 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!