

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

LIVING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH welcomes you as you join with us in worship this day. May the Holy Spirit bless you with the message you hear from God's Word, the prayers, the hymns, and the fellowship we share with you. Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services. If you need to step out for a moment with your child, a Family Room is located right outside the Sanctuary doors.
- Changing Tables are located in the Restrooms.
- Please fill out an attendance sheet in the pad on the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. Guests: We promise we will not bombard you with emails or calls, but this information is helpful for staying in touch.
- Please let us know if we can help you in any way.

HOLY COMMUNION: *We are very glad that you have joined us today for this worship service as we hear the Word of God and receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This church is in fellowship with other congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. As such, we believe and practice the biblical teaching that we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament (Matthew 26, Mark 14 and Luke 22). If you have a different understanding of Communion or are still learning about this biblical teaching, we love you enough to ask you not to receive Holy Communion this day (1 Corinthians 11). However, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing at the time of Communion. If later you have questions about this or any other teachings, the pastor would be very pleased to talk with you.*

OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Living Savior Lutheran Church
310 Louisa, Montgomery, TX 77356

www.livingsaviortexas.org
Church Phone: (936) 597-8013

Prayer Chain Requests under
"Contact Us" tab on website

Pastor David R. Bailes

(936) 521-9389 (cell)

drbailes@livingsaviortexas.org

Vicar Tim Douglas

(713) 515-2003 (cell)

tdouglas@livingsaviortexas.org

Joshua Pillows

Director of Worship Arts

jmpillows95@livingsaviortexas.org

Cheryl G. Bailes

Director of Christian Education

cgbales@livingsaviortexas.org

Lindsay Oneto

Church Office Administrator

office@livingsaviortexas.org

ELDERS OF LIVING SAVIOR

Butch Nye: Presiding Elder

Roger Bartel

Thomas Fendia

(936) 522-7464

(936) 537-0011

(832) 877-5493

Clay Hegar

Doug Krenz

Doug Lee

(903) 275-8413

(713) 248-9892

(281) 744-0448

Earl McCaleb

John Nye

Bruce Shutt

(936) 445-8923

(936) 672-1139

(346) 273-5594

CHURCH COUNCIL OF LIVING SAVIOR

Pete Hames – President

Jack & Peggy Heintschel -
Evangelism

Chris Cheatham – Vice President

Mike Newman – Head Trustee

Lisa Schoppa – Secretary

Jennifer Steen - Youth

LeAnn Way – Treasurer

Andrea Mascardo - Christian

Mark Lamprecht – Financial Secretary

Thomas and Shala Fendia –

Joyce Knighten/Carol Patterson –

Stewardship

Family Life

-Contact information available upon request-

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Though you may be familiar with Jesus' parable of the sower, you may be surprised to hear that you do not really know it yet! That's because on the one hand, the Word of God does not change. Yet on the other hand, we need to keep hearing it again and again, because our circumstances are constantly changing. The parable of the sower tells of this mystery. The seed is God's Word, God's work of planting repentance and faith in ears who hear. We may think of the various kinds of soil Jesus mentions to be various sorts of people. Actually, however, He is describing each individual in their changing circumstances. There are times when we are "good soil," that is, we understand God's Word and take comfort in it. There are other times, however, when we either cannot or will not hear it. Sometimes we become hard paths, rocky or distracted by worries or fears. For this reason, God never ceases planting, speaking, and growing faith in the heart, and we return repeatedly to continue hearing, reading, learning, and receiving God's Word because He never gives up on you.

Pre-Service Music

Welcome/Announcements

We Call Upon the Name of the Lord

V In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Titus 3:3-7

V For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures,

C **passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.**

V But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,

C **He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy,**

V by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

C **whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,**

V so that being justified by His grace

C **we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.**

Hymn: "God Himself Is Present"

LSB 907

1. God Himself is present:

Let us now adore Him
And with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple;
All within keep silence;
Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
He alone
On His throne
Is our God and Savior;
Praise His name forever!

2. God Himself is present:

Hear the harps resounding;
See the hosts the throne surrounding.
"Holy, holy, holy!"
Hear the hymn ascending,
Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow Your ear
To us here:
Hear, O Christ, the praises
That Your Church now raises.

Confession and Absolution

V In that divine hope, let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You by not letting You have Your way with us. We have become deaf to Your Word. Because of our weak love for You and for our neighbor, we have become fruitless trees deserving only Your judgment. Therefore, we return to You today asking Your forgiveness and for the strengthening of our faith and love. By Your Word, restore us and renew us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

V Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing: upon this, your confession, I announce the grace of God to you and that all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

LSB 809

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain

ref. Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960
Text: Public domain

Greeting

V The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

V 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.**

✠ God Speaks to Us Through His Word ✠

God Speaks to Us Through Isaiah

Isaiah 55:10-13

"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, so 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.

"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. Instead 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."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

God Speaks to Us Through the Apostle Paul

Romans 8:12-17

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For 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. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For 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!” The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual and Verse

Romans 11:33, 36; Isaiah 40:6

V Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

C How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

V For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

C To Him be glory forever. Amen.

V Alleluia. The grass withers, the flower fades,

C but the word of our God will stand forever. Alleluia.

God Speaks to Us Through His Son

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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

“Hear then the parable of the sower: When 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. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet 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. As 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. As 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.”

V This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message

Hymn: “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”

LSB 577

1. Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav’n descend
And righteous fruits abound.
2. Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev’ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.
3. Let not the world’s deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy.
4. So when the precious seed is sown,
Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth
receive
Its saving pow’r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon: “Seed and Soils”

Matthew 13:1-23

Creed

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.

Prayer of the Church

- ☩ Let us pray.
We praise You, O God, we acknowledge You to be the Lord. All the earth worships You, our Creator and Redeemer. By Your mighty Word, all things live and move and have their being. We praise You for Your creation. But with even greater praise, we give thanks for Your re-creating Word by which You have conquered sin and death, restoring earth’s beauty and eternal life to all who believe. Cause Your Word to be received and believed by all people, giving everyone Your new life through faith in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,
☩ hear our prayer.

- V** For the glorious company of the apostles, the fellowship of the prophets, and the evangelists of Your Gospel, we give You thanks. Give conviction and strength to all today whom You have called and ordained to proclaim Your Word to this generation, and bring forth the fruits of faith and love in all those renewed by Your Word and Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- V** God bless our native land with freedom and wisdom to acknowledge Your Holy Word as the only sure foundation of governance in line with Your grace, wisdom, and will. Raise up servant leaders to guard, guide, and protect all citizens of our country in the way of Your truth. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- V** As You promise Your own healing peace and comfort for Your people, so surround all who suffer any need, sickness, or adversity. Grant that their faith never fail and their prayers never cease. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- V** As the washing of water with Your Word in Holy Baptism raises us to new life now by faith, so give the confidence of the resurrection to eternal life to all. We give thanks for all who have departed in faith and now rest from their labors. Keep us in the wisdom and confidence of faith in the Word of our Lord Jesus who said, “everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die” (John 11:26). Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- V** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

We Worship God with Our Offerings

(Our offerings give us an opportunity to give thanks to God for the many ways He has blessed us. Members and regular attendees support God's mission and ministry as He works through this congregation. Guests are welcome to give an offering but are not expected to do so. Psalm 54:6; 116:12-14, 17)

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

Hymn: “Almighty, Father, Bless the Word”

LSB 923

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Almighty Father, bless the Word
Which through Your grace we now have
heard.</p> | <p>Oh, may the precious seed take root,
Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!</p> |
|--|---|

2. We praise You for the means of grace \triangle 3. Praise God, from whom all blessings
As homeward now our steps we trace. flow;
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here Praise Him, all creatures here below;
May all at last in heav'n appear. Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text (sts. 1–2): Church Poetry, 1823, Philadelphia, alt.; (st. 3): Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Text: Public domain

Sending: Living Savior Lutheran Church Mission Statement

- P** As we go out this day, let us remember our mission is...
C Making an eternal impact today through the love of Jesus Christ.

The quotation from the Lutheran Confessions is from *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions*, second edition; edited by Paul McCain, et al., copyright © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.
Copyright © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.