

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

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The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

The word *mentor* can be both a noun describing a trusted counselor or a verb meaning to guide someone in new learning. The word originally was the name of a person from classical literature: Mentor was a friend of the Greek hero Odysseus who was entrusted with the education of his son Telemachus. You may have had special mentors throughout your life. We are reminded that Jesus our Lord is our best and most devoted mentor. A well-loved hymn by German writer Sigismund von Birken begins with these words: “Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure” (*LSB* 685:1). Jesus is our merciful mentor who gently leads us day by day along the path that leads to eternal life. We follow gladly in His footsteps!

Pre-Service Music

Welcome/Announcements

We Call Upon the Name of the Lord

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 65:1-4

- P** Praise is due to You, O God, in Zion,
C and to You shall vows be performed.
- P** O You who hears prayer, to You shall all flesh come.
C When iniquities prevail against me, You atone for our transgressions.
- P** Blessed is the one You choose and bring near, to dwell in Your courts!
C We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, the holiness of Your temple!

Hymn: “We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God

LSB 941

1. We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord,
The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.
To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,
The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:
“O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!”
2. The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise;
The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.
The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,
Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:
“O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son,
And Holy Spirit, Comforter—forever Three in One!”

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955
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Confession and Absolution

- P** Beloved in the Lord, let us make confession to our merciful God, acknowledging that we are sinful from birth and need His gracious forgiveness.

Hymn: “To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All”

LSB 613

1. **To Thee, omniscient Lord of all,
In grief and shame I humbly call;
I see my sins against Thee, Lord,** **The sins of thought and deed and word.
They press me sore; I cry to Thee:
O God, be merciful to me!**

P Confessing that our thoughts and words and deeds are sinful and hurtful, let us turn to God, confident in the love that He has shown to us through His Son, Jesus our Lord, who died to pay the price of all our sins.

2. **O Lord, my God, to Thee I pray:
O cast me not in wrath away!
Let Thy good Spirit ne’er depart,** **But let Him draw to Thee my heart
That truly penitent I be:
O God, be merciful to me!**

P God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

3. **O Jesus, let Thy precious blood
Be to my soul a cleansing flood.
Turn not, O Lord, Thy guest away,** **But grant that justified I may
Go to my house at peace with Thee:
O God, be merciful to me!**

Text: Magnus Brostrup Landstad, 1802–80; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.
Text: Public domain

P Be of good cheer and assured, for God has promised that your sins are indeed forgiven. May the Holy Spirit abide with you as you live at peace.

G Amen.

Hymn: “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

LSB 709

- △ 1. **Praise God, from whom all blessings
flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;** **Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Text: Public domain

Greeting

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.
O God, from whom all good proceeds,

G **grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

✠ God Speaks to Us Through His Word ✠

God Speaks to Us Through the Ezekiel

Ezekiel 33:7-9

“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you

shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choir: *Believe He Loves You*

Berta and Sonja Poorman

God Speaks to Us Through the Apostle Paul

Romans 13:1-10

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

God Speaks to Us Through His Son

Matthew 18:1-20

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. For the Son of Man came to save the lost. What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not

leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message

Cheryl Bailes

Hymn of the Day: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

LSB 411

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. *Refrain*

Ref. In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2. I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934
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Sermon: "Follow Like a Child"

Matthew 18:1-4

Catechism

The First Article

P Frequently in His ministry, Jesus spoke of His Father in heaven. In today's Gospel, we heard Him referring to "the face of My Father who is in heaven" and sharing with the disciples what He knew to be "the will of My Father." In the words of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed and its meaning, we focus our confession of faith in the loving work of God the Father for us. He has created us, and in His grace He preserves us day by day and season by season.

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the whole Church, that through it the goodness of God may be shared. And we pray for those who lead the Church, that, mentored by Your mercy, they do so with devotion and humility. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for the nations of the world, asking that voices that call for peace be heard and that the rich bounty of creation be carefully nurtured and thoughtfully shared. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for our families and everyone in them. Remove any sense of envy from among all of us, Lord, that we rejoice in the gifts You have given to each of us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for those whose work is dangerous and for those who feel that what they are doing is not noticed by others. Grant a sense of satisfaction to all people in their various vocations, that together we rejoice in times of prosperity and, in times of adversity, be of support to one another. Bless those engaged in works of Christian mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for those whose lives know burdens and challenges, whose petitions are joined with ours. This day we commend to Your care [*names*, and] all Your children who are in need of prayer. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray that our offerings given here this day be sacrifices acceptable to You, O Lord, and that, with Your blessing, they find holy usage to Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P With gratitude, we remember those who have completed their earthly journeys and who by faith now rejoice in Your presence. Grant that their memory among us be blessed. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P These things and whatsoever else we should have asked of You, grant us by Your mercy, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

C 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)

✠ Our Lord Comes to Us In His Body and His Blood ✠

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Sanctus: "Holy is the Lord of Hosts"

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Holy, holy holy! Holy is the Lord of hosts!

Heaven and earth give praise to Thee.

Heaven and earth give praise to Thee.

Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna!

O blest is He that comes, that comes in the name of the Lord!

Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Bless us and our worship this day through the working of the Holy Spirit that as we gather to receive the holy body and blood of our Lord and Savior we may be filled with Your heavenly peace and joy.

C Amen.

Consecration of the Bread and the Wine

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death,

Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Hymn: “Children of the Heavenly Father”

LSB 725

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Children of the heav’nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e’er was given. | 3. Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth. |
| 2. God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them. | 4. Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne’er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy. |

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958
Text: Public domain

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

- P** Let us pray.
Almighty and everlasting God, we thank and praise You for having fed us with the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Keep us in Your faith and favor that all we do may be to Your glory. As You live in us, may we also live in You. By Your grace, grant that Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith unto everlasting life. This we ask in the name of Jesus, our loving Savior.
- C** Amen.

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: “Spread the Reign of God the Lord”

LSB 830

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Spread the reign of God the Lord,
Spoken, written, mighty Word;
Ev’rywhere His creatures call
To His heav’nly banquet hall. | How His own dear Son He gave
Us from sin and death to save. |
| 2. Tell how God the Father’s will
Made the world, upholds it still, | 3. Tell of our Redeemer’s grace,
Who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion’s price,
Gave Himself as sacrifice. |

4. Tell of God the Spirit giv'n
Now to guide us on to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true,
Working both to will and do.

5. Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.

But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!

6. Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.

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.

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