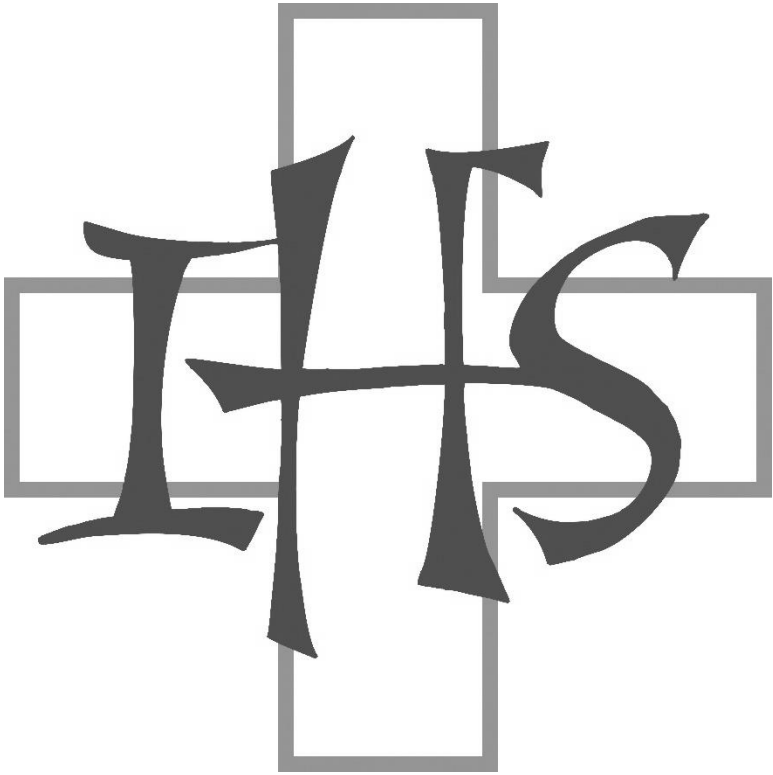


# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



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

The LORD has established his throne in the  
heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

*Psalm 103:8, 19*

## Order of Worship

*July 16, 2023 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>

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## Introit

*Psalm 103:8, 15–19*

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.

## Communion Theology and Practice

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is intended for those:

- who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God,
- who have faith in Jesus Christ as God the Son in the flesh and their personal Savior from sin, death, and the devil;
- who believe that they have sin that needs forgiving, hurt that needs healing, and faith that needs strengthening;
- who are committed to amending their sinful ways; and
- who believe that in, with, and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of the risen Christ, together with the forgiveness of all their sins.

*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

### Invocation

**P** This is the day the Lord has made;

**C** Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*Psalm 118:24*

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

*Matthew 28:19*

**C** Amen.

### Opening Song

Here I Am To Worship

*Hughes*

*Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 1, Chorus, Chorus*



VERSE

1. Light of the world, You stepped down in - to dark - ness,  
2. King of all days, O so high - ly ex - alt - ed,

o - pened my eyes, let me see  
Glor - ious in Heav - en a - bove;

beau - ty that made this heart a - dore You,  
Hum - bly You came to the earth You cre - a - ted,

hope of a life spent with You.  
all for love's sake be - came poor.

*continued on next page*

9 CHORUS

Here I am to wor-ship, here I am to bow down; Here I am to  
 12 say that You're my— God;— You're al-to-geth-er love-ly, al-to-geth-er  
 15 wor-thy, al-to-geth-er won-der - ful— to me.—

## Prayer of Confession

- P** Holy Lord, as we stand in your presence, we are aware of our sins of thought, word, and action.
- C** **We have not always lived our lives according to your will.**
- P** We have often failed to live up to your expectations.
- C** **We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**
- P** But we know your promise, that if we confess our sins,
- C** **you will hear our cry, and grant us your forgiveness.**

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

- P** O Lord, hear us now, as we confess our sins to You.
- 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** Jesus has carried our sins to His own death. His sacrifice is complete and full – it is finished! The victory is won! 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  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**Song of Praise**

Hear Our Praises

Morgan

*Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus*



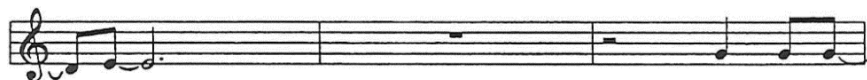
1. May our homes— be filled— with danc - ing.—  
 2. May a light— shine in— the dark - ness,—



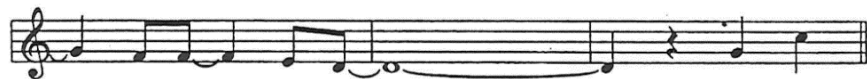
May our streets— be filled— with joy.—  
 as we walk— be - fore— the cross.—



May in - jus - tice— bow— to Je -  
 May Your glo - ry fill— the whole—



- sus— as the peo -  
 — earth,— as the wa -



- ple turn— and pray.— From the  
 - ter o'er— the seas.—

$\text{X}$  Repeat 2nd time only



moun - tain— to the val - ley— hear our

*continued on next page*



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

<sup>11</sup>You crown the year with your bounty;  
your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

**<sup>12</sup>The pastures of the wilderness overflow,  
the hills gird themselves with joy,**

<sup>13</sup>the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,  
the valleys deck themselves with grain,  
they shout and sing together for joy.

**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.**

## Prayer

**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.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 55:10–13*

<sup>10</sup>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,  
<sup>11</sup>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.

<sup>12</sup>"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.  
<sup>13</sup>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."

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

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

## Epistle

*Romans 8:12–17*

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup>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!" <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>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.

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

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





## 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.**

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. <sup>5</sup>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, <sup>6</sup>but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

<sup>18</sup>"Hear then the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>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."

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

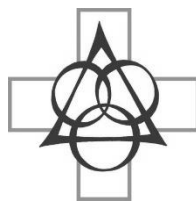


## Nicene Creed

**☩ 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.**



Sermon Song

In Christ Alone

Townend, Getty

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is  
 2. In Christ a - lone! who took on  
 3. There in the ground His bod - y  
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in

found, He is my light, my strength, my  
 flesh, Ful - ness of God in help - - - less  
 lay, Light of the world by dark - - - ness  
 death, This is the pow'r of Christ in

song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id  
 babel This gift of love and right - eous -  
 slain; Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious  
 me; From life's first cry to fin - al

Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and  
 ness, Scorned by the ones He came to  
 Day Up from the grave He rose a -  
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - - - ti -

storm. What heights of love, what depths of  
 save; Till on that cross as Je - sus  
 gain! And as He stands in vic - to -  
 ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of

peace, When fears are stilled, when striv - ings  
 died, The wrath of God was sat - is -  
 ry, Sin's curse has lost its grip on  
 man, Can ev - er pluck me from His

ceasel My Com - for - ter, my All in  
 fied For - ev - 'ry sin on Him was  
 me, For I am His and He is  
 hand; Till He re - turns or calls me

All, here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.  
 mine Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
 home, Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

## Sermon



### Prayers of the Church Family and the Lord's Prayer

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

*Response after each petition*

- P** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty God, Your Spirit calls us by the Gospel to the new life of faith. We praise You and acknowledge You as our Lord. Deliver us from the devil's temptations, that we may live under You and serve You in righteousness, innocence and blessedness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

- P** Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

- 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.**

### Blessing

- 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.**


**Song**

**By Faith**

*Getty, Getty, Townend*

*Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 3, Verse 4, Chorus, Verse 5, Chorus x2, Tag*

VERSE



1. By faith we see the hand of God in the  
 2. By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth with the

3  
 light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign, in the  
 pow'r of His pro - mise in their hearts, of a

5  
 lives of those who prove His faith - ful - ness,  
 ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,

7  
 who walk by faith and not by sight. reign. We will  
 a place where peace and jus - tice

10  
 CHORUS  $\text{\textcircled{X}}$   
 stand as chil - dren of the pro - mise; we will fix our eyes on Him, our

13  
 soul's re - ward. 'Til the race is fin - ished and the work is done,  
 2nd X to Coda  $\text{\textcircled{X}}$


16  
 we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

19  
 VERSE  
 3. By faith the pro - phets saw the day when the  
 4. By faith the church was called to go in the

21  
 longed - for Mes - si - ah would ap - pear with the  
 pow'r of the Spir - it to the lost to de -

*continued on next page*

23



pow'r to break the chains of sin and death  
liv - er cap - tives and to preach good news

25



1. and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. earth. We will  
in ev' ry cor - ner\_ of the\_

2. **D.S. al Coda**  $\Theta$

28



$\Theta$  Coda (3)  
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

31



VERSE  
5. By faith this moun - tain shall be moved and the

33



pow'r of the gos - pel shall pre - vail, for we

35



know in Christ all things are pos - si - ble for all who call up - on His

38



name. **CHORUS**  
We will stand as chil - dren of the pro - mise; we will

41



fix our eyes on Him, our soul's re - ward. 'Til the

43



race is fin - ished and the work is done,

45



we'll walk by faith and not by sight. Oh, we will

47



**CHORUS**  
stand as chil - dren of the pro - mise; we will fix our eyes on Him, our

50

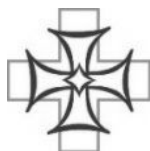
soul's \_\_\_ re-ward. 'Til the race is fin - ished and the

52

work is done, we'll walk by faith \_\_\_ and not by

55

sight. we'll walk by faith \_\_\_ and not by sight.



## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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## Resources for Meditation this Week

### SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

16 July 2023

#### Readings

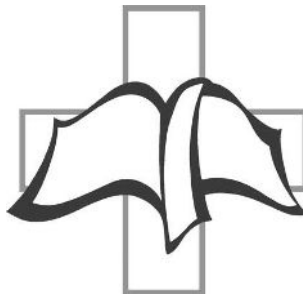
Isaiah 55:10–13

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).

