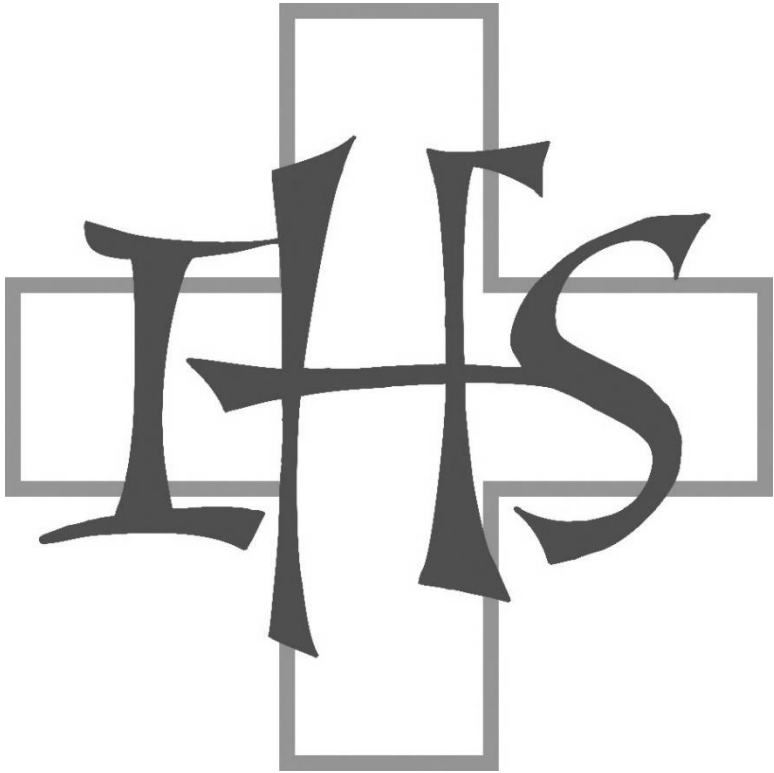


# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. *Galatians 2:20*

## Order of Worship

*September 10, 2023 10:45 AM*

# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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## Introit

*Psalm 92:1-4; antiphon: v. 5*

How great are your works, O LORD!

Your thoughts are very deep!

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

and your faithfulness by night,

to the music of the lute and the harp,

to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;

at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

How great are your works, O LORD!

Your thoughts are very deep!

## 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.

# Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## Divine Service, Setting One

Welcome

Opening Hymn

### Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

LSB 902



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in  
2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less  
3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, "O ho - ly,  
△ 4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly



truc de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with  
hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and  
ho - ly Lord Most High!" And in the light of  
Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed



light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.  
light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.  
that blest place We then shall see You face to face.  
Trin - i - ty, Be praise through - out e - ter - ni - ty!

Text and Tune: Public domain

Invocation

**L** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

- L** 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.**

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

- L** 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.**
- L** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### Psalm

*Psalm 32:1–7*

*Spoken responsively*

<sup>1</sup>Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

<sup>2</sup>**Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

<sup>3</sup>For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.

**4For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not cover my iniquity;  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"  
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**6Therefore let everyone who is godly  
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;  
surely in the rush of great waters,  
they shall not reach him.**

<sup>7</sup>You are a hiding place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**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.**

## Kyrie

LSB 152

**L** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** 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 mercy.**

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

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** **Amen.**



# Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154

**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.



## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**L** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**L** Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, 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.

**C** **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 33:7–9*

<sup>7</sup>“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. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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.”

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

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

## Epistle

*Romans 13:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>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, <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For the same reason you also pay taxes,

for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>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." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

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

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



### Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:1–20

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

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

<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" <sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.



<sup>5</sup>Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>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! <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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.

<sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost. <sup>12</sup>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? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

<sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

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

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\dagger$  everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker

LSB 820

1 My soul, now praise your Mak - er! Let all with - in me  
2 He of - fers all His trea - sure Of jus - tice, truth, and  
3 For as a ten - der fa - ther Has pit - y on his  
4 His grace re - mains for - ev - er, And chil - dren's chil - dren

bless His name Who makes you full par - tak - er Of  
righ - teous - ness, His love be - yond all mea - sure. His  
chil - dren here, God in His arms will gath - er All  
yet shall prove That God for - sakes them nev - er Who

mer - cies more than you dare claim. For - get Him not whose  
yearn - ing pit - y o'er dis - tress; Nor treats us as we  
who are His in child - like fear. He knows how frail our  
in true fear shall seek His love. In heav'n is fixed His

meek - ness Still bears with all your sin, Who heals your ev - 'ry  
mer - it But sets His an - ger by. The poor and con - trite  
pow - ers, Who but from dust are made. We flour - ish like the  
dwell - ing. His rule is o - ver all; O hosts with might ex -

weak - ness, Re - news your life with - in; Whose grace and  
spir - it Finds His com - pas - sion nigh; And high as  
flow - ers, And e - ven so we fade; The wind but  
cel - ling. With praise be - fore Him fall. Praise Him for -

care are end - less And saved you through the past; Who  
heav'n a - bove us, As dawn from close of day, So  
through them pass - es, And all their bloom is o'er. We  
ev - er reign - ing, All you who hear His Word— Our

leaves no suf - f'rer friend - less But rights the wronged at last.  
far, since He has loved us, He puts our sins a - way.  
with - er like the grass - es; Our place knows us no more.  
life and all sus - tain - ing, My soul, O praise the Lord!

Text and Tune: Public domain

**Sermon**

“Life in Christ”

*Galatians 2:20*



**Choir**

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

*Beck*

## 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.

*Response after each petition*

- L** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

- L** 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.**

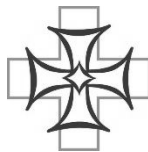
**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## Benediction

LSB 166

- L** The Lord bless us and keep us.  
The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us.  
The Lord look upon us with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give us peace.

- C** **Amen.**



# Closing Hymn

## Thy Strong Word

LSB 578



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy  
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as  
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with  
4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed  
night and deep as death, Broke the light of  
Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we  
forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.  
ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,  
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.

Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send  
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.  
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.  
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.  
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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## Resources for Meditation this Week

### FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 September 2023

#### Readings

Ezekiel 33:7–9

Romans 13:1–10

Matthew 18:1–20

#### ***Living as Humble Little Children of the Father***

True greatness is not self-sufficient strength, but humility like that of a little child. The greatness of childlike faith receives all good things as gracious gifts from our Father in heaven. Apart from such faith, *"you will never enter the kingdom of heaven,"* but whoever is humbled like a little child will be *"the greatest in the kingdom of heaven"* (Matt. 18:3–4).

Though in our sin we deserve to be *"drowned in the depth of the sea"* (Matt. 18:6), we have instead been drowned ("buried") with Christ in Baptism and then raised to the new, humble life of a child of God. The Lord sends His watchman to warn us with a word from His mouth, in order that we may not die in our iniquity but be turned from our pride and selfishness to live (Ezek. 33:7–9). Thus, we live in humility and faith before God as well as in love for our neighbor, which *"is the fulfilling of the law"* (Rom. 13:10). In the reverent fear of God, we do no harm to our neighbor, but we *"pay to all what is owed to them"* (Rom. 13:7) and we *"owe no one anything, except to love each other"* (Rom. 13:8).

**Readings**

Genesis 50:15–21

Romans 14:1–12

Matthew 18:21–35

***Forgiving as the Lord Forgives Us***

In settling His accounts with us, our Lord acts not with anger, but with compassion. He does not imprison us as we deserve, but He forgives all our debts and releases us (Matt. 18:23–27). Therefore, our Lord bids each of us to have *“mercy on your fellow servant”* and *“forgive your brother from your heart”* (Matt. 18:33, 35). By the Lord’s forgiveness of our sins, we are free to forgive those who sin against us, because He has been handed over to the jailers in our stead and He has paid our entire debt with His lifeblood. Whether we live or die, we *“are the Lord’s”* (Rom. 14:8). Since we all will *“stand before the judgment seat of God,”* we are not to despise our brother (Rom. 14:10), but gladly forgive him. By the grace of God, our brother also *“will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand”* (Rom. 14:4). Though we daily sin against each other, the Lord intends *“to bring it about that many people should be kept alive”* (Gen. 50:20). Jesus speaks kindly by His Gospel and promises: *“I will provide for you and your little ones”* (Gen. 50:21).

