## The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God."

Mark 10:27

# Order of Worship

October 20, 2024 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

#### Introit

Psalm 34:1-4, 17; antiphon: v. 18

The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

## 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.

## Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

#### Divine Service

#### Welcome

**Invocation** *Matthew 28:19* 

P In the name of the Father and of the 

→ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.





## **Prayer of Confession**

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

#### Absolution

- 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 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



**Psalm** Psalm 119:9–16

Spoken responsively

<sup>9</sup>How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

## 10With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!

<sup>11</sup>I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

## <sup>12</sup>Blessèd are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes!

<sup>13</sup>With my lips I declare all the just decrees of your mouth.

#### <sup>14</sup>In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.

<sup>15</sup>I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.

<sup>16</sup>I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

## **Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray.

O God, Your divine wisdom sets in order all things in heaven and on earth. Put away from us all things hurtful and give us those things that are beneficial for us; 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**

Ecclesiastes 5:10-20

<sup>10</sup>He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. <sup>11</sup>When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? <sup>12</sup>Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

<sup>13</sup>There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, <sup>14</sup>and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. <sup>15</sup>As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. <sup>16</sup>This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? <sup>17</sup>Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger.

<sup>18</sup>Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. <sup>19</sup>Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. <sup>20</sup>For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

**Epistle** Hebrews 4:1–13

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. <sup>2</sup>For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. <sup>3</sup>For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said,

"As I swore in my wrath,

'They shall not enter my rest,'"

although his works were finished from the foundation of the world. <sup>4</sup>For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all his works." <sup>5</sup>And again in this passage he said,

"They shall not enter my rest."

<sup>6</sup>Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, <sup>7</sup>again he appoints a certain day, "Today," saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted,

"Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts." <sup>8</sup>For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. <sup>9</sup>So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, <sup>10</sup>for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

<sup>11</sup>Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. <sup>12</sup>For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. <sup>13</sup>And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

#### **Holy Gospel**

Mark 10:23-31

- The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" <sup>24</sup>And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." <sup>26</sup>And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" <sup>27</sup>Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." <sup>28</sup>Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." <sup>29</sup>Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, <sup>30</sup>who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup>But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

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

Nicene Creed LSB 206

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 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,

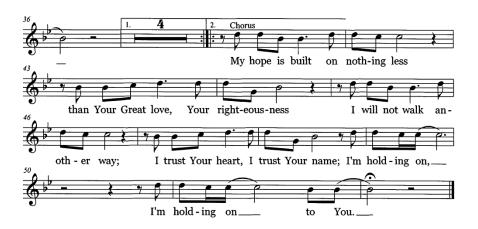
who spoke by the prophets.

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.



Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 3, Chorus x2





Sermon

"The Eye of a Needle"

Mark 10:23-31



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

Lord, You are near to the brokenhearted, and You save the crushed in spirit. Deliver us from every fear and trouble, that the praise of Your name would continually be in our mouths.

Response after each petition

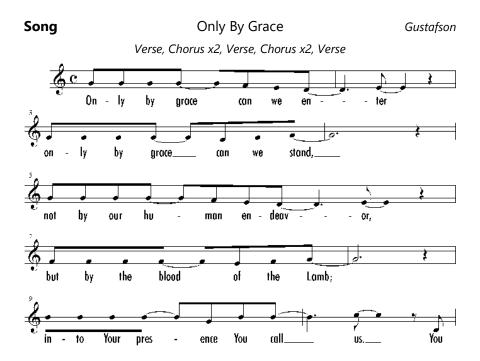
- **P** Lord, in your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord God, heavenly Father, Your Son left His earthly home to do His saving work, and so He knows what it is to leave family behind. Comfort Your children who have left home and loved ones for the sake of the Gospel. Set them firmly into the family of the Church, and sustain them in the hope of eternal life in the age to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

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





#### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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## Resources for Meditation this Week

#### TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

20 October 2024

#### Readings

Ecclesiastes 5:10–20 Hebrews 4:1–13 (14–16) Mark 10:23–31

#### By the Voluntary Poverty of Christ, We Enter the Kingdom of God

To love and trust in earthly wealth is vanity. For nothing of this earth will last forever, nor can any of it grant eternal life (Eccl. 5:10). But the one who trusts in God is "occupied with joy in his heart" and is able to sleep in peace, "whether he eats little or much," because he knows that the "days of his life" are "the gift of God" (Eccl. 5:12, 18–20). The person who trusts in riches cannot sleep, because he "shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand" (Eccl. 5:15). Therefore, it is difficult "for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God" (Mark 20:23). Indeed, it is impossible for man, yet "all things are possible with God" (Mark 20:27). Thus, the Rich Man, Jesus Christ, has made Himself poor and has gone through "the eye of a needle," through death and the grave, "to enter the kingdom of God" on our behalf (Mark 20:24–25). He is the "great high priest who has passed through the heavens" (Heb. 4:14), so that we may now enter His Sabbath rest by faith in His forgiveness (Heb. 4:3–9).



#### 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, has justified 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, that we might 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).

