

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship

August 17, 2025

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost



ELCA

WELCOME

Your presence builds up the body of Christ. We welcome and affirm God's diversity, including all ethnicities, cultures, races, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, abilities, ages, and life experiences. You are invited to full participation in our congregation because of who you are. We lament and confess how the Christian Church has withheld Christ's love by misusing the power of institution. We commit to advocating for God's justice and mercy for all of creation, including humans. We commit to anti-racism and other ways of ending systems that cause harm. Christ is our peace and breaks down the walls that divide us. Our communion table is Christ's table. You and all people are welcome without exception.



RECONCILING IN CHRIST

Newcomers and Visitors + Newcomers and Visitors + We're glad you're here. Please fill out the green slip in the pew rack and place in the offering plate. You're welcome to share in Holy Communion. Families - we have a small play area up front.

Nametags + Nametags help us get to know and remember each other. Please let the ushers know if you need one made for you.

Expansive Language + As Lutherans, we teach that "God calls all creation into being and gives people language as a way of responding to God and forming community" (Principles for Worship, Principle L-1). In worship at Our Saviour's, we seek to use expansive language for God and people, sometimes changing or offering alternatives to the printed text.

Current Liturgy Music + liturgy is the flow of our worship service - working together as people to praise God. Currently our liturgy music is from Now the Feast and Celebration by Marty Haugen.

Prayer Requests: Tom, Melanie, Mary, Tracy & Marty, Gene, Addison and Nicole, and those at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Friends & Family: Callie (granddaughter of Mary Lou Forier), Beverly (Mother of Hildi Williams), Gerri (Cousin of Patty Sirls); Pat (Friend of Our Saviour's); David (Son of Geoff and Suzy Swann); Jeanne (Cousin of Alan Bales); Barbara (sister-in-law of Kenith Ijams); Peggy (sister of Bonnie Phelps); Josh, Melissa, Mary Ann, and Libby (friends of Chris and Theda Doak); Megan (niece of Chris and Theda Doak); Sandy and Doug, Sally, Ashley, and Kamri (friends of Kathy DeVinney); Tom (brother-in-law of Ted Adams); Abel (great grandson of Laverne Walsh); Jeanne (friend of Schatzi Taylor); Grant and Shirley (brother and sister-in-law of Theda Doak); John (son of Martha Neff Stum and Paul Stum); Sam; Eleanor (mother-in-law of Kris Sanchez; Bert and Maria (Friends of Jon and Nilu Dorschner); Daniel (neighbor's son of Gloria Schmidt); Kristian and Melissa (Jon and Nilu Dorschner's son and daughter-in-law).

Names will remain on the list for three weeks, unless requested for longer.

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Pastor Glenn and Ted's Celebration Today

Please join Pastor Glenn and Ted following worship service on Sunday, August 17 in the Activity Building to mark their nearly 20 years at Our Saviour's. This will be an opportunity to say "good-bye" since this will be their last time with the congregation before they head for Colorado. Look for some treats — and for the last of the Meyer lemon lemonade too!

Listening Deeply to the Prophets

This summer we are following an alternative pattern for our readings in worship in order to listen and learn from prophetic teachers in our tradition. Each week we will hear from Luke's Gospel and then from one of the Hebrew Bible prophets - Elijah, Elisha, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. Through faithful reading, preaching, and listening deeply to the prophets we pray that we will grow in understanding how we can convey God's hope and grace found in Christ through the Holy Spirit.

Overview of Today's Scripture

This week's readings in our series on the prophets contrast what it means to welcome or to disregard God's gracious ways. Luke surprises us with a Pharisee who welcomes Jesus to his table. What may surprise us even more are Jesus' teachings there of gospel table manners. Jeremiah takes poetic flight on Israel's disregard of the Holy One. The God who brought life and land is cast aside for idols as impotent and worthless as cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

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*An asterisk indicates the congregation should stand in body and/or spirit.
Congregation's speaking and singing parts are in bold font.

Welcome

Prelude *White Flower* by Joyce Leong

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Sovereign, and of the ☩ Savior, and of the Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others;
we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace;
we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity;
we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's own through faith.
In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
you are free. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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***GREETING**

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

FIRST READING Luke 14:1,7-14

Our first reading is from Luke.

The gospels frequently tell stories where Jesus and Pharisees are at odds. In truth, Jesus had far more in common with Pharisees than with groups like the Sadducees or Zealots or Essenes. Our reading opens with a leader of the Pharisees hosting Jesus in his home for a meal. Jesus accepts his hospitality. But as places are taken by other guests, the dinner table becomes a teaching table. Jesus instructs guests and host alike in the table manners of humility and grace.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Jeremiah 2:4-13

Prophets often employ the language of poetry. Their poetry seeks to stir imaginations with word patterns and metaphors to evoke fresh ways of hearing what is holy in life. And, what is unholy. In today's reading, the word "land" occurs six times in two verses to underscore its regression from God's gift to Israel's forfeit. Jeremiah concludes with a metaphor for what results from forgetting God in order to chase after idols: "cracked cisterns that hold no water." That was not true in a literal sense. The land of Israel was not then pocked with unusable tanks to store water. Rather, the phrase conveys the bitter truth of what Israel chose in place of covenant with God.

⁴ Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.

⁵ Thus says the Lord:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me
that they went far from me
and went after worthless things and became worthless themselves?

⁶ They did not say, **"Where is the Lord,
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
in a land that no one passes through,
where no one lives?"**

⁷ I brought you into a plentiful land
to eat its fruits and its good things.
But when you entered you defiled my land
and made my heritage an abomination.

⁸ The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?"
Those who handle the law did not know me;
the rulers transgressed against me;
the prophets prophesied by Baal
and went after things that do not profit.

⁹ Therefore once more I accuse you,
says the Lord,
and I accuse your children's children.

¹⁰ Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look;
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.

¹¹ Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?
But my people have changed their glory
for something that does not profit.

¹² Be appalled, O heavens, at this;
be shocked; be utterly desolate,
says the Lord,

¹³ for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,
the fountain of living water,
and dug out cisterns for themselves,
cracked cisterns
that can hold no water.

SERMON

Silence for Reflection

*HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #462 Now We Join in Celebration

Now We Join in Celebration



1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God Cre - a - tor.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav' - n - ly glad - ness.
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990

Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assisting minister leads the prayers.

...God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

...Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*EXCHANGE OF PEACE

OFFERING *All Creatures of Our God and King* by Dan Musselman

*OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God, **in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right to give our thanks and praise in all ways and all places...

...We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY HOLY HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

...Trusting in the mercy and compassion of God who is with us as Parent and Creator,
let us pray as Jesus did:

**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.**

COMMUNION

The feast of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

This is Christ's table. You and all are welcome, without exception. If you prefer a blessing only, cross your arms over your heart. Gluten free wafers available by request. The wine is red; grape juice is clear. Please let an usher know if you would like communion brought to your pew.

COMMUNION MUSIC Lamb of God



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

ELW # 486 God Extends an Invitation
ELW #522 As We Gather at Your Table

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING AT THE CONCLUSION OF A CALL

*BLESSING

*SENDING HYMN ELW #807 Come Thou Font of Every Blessing

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

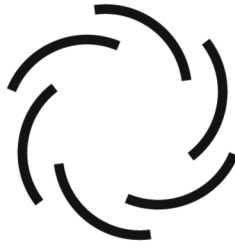


teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you!

Thanks be to God.



Welcome Yi Yun Chin

We are delighted to welcome Yi Yun Chin to the music ministry at Our Saviour's in the role of Collaborative Musician. Yi Yun (*yee -yoon*) is a first-year doctoral student at University of Arizona, studying piano performance. She will be providing music for Sunday worship and accompanying the choir. After growing up in Malaysia, Yi Yun completed her Master of Music in Piano Performance at Miami University in Miami, Ohio. She is passionate about performing arts, with over 8 years of experience in piano accompaniment for singers, choirs, ensembles, and solo instruments and was the collaborative musician for a Unitarian Universalist congregation in Miami for two years. Yi Yun writes that that she "greatly values the role of music in uniting a congregation and uplifting hearts." The search committee (Nancy Rude, Pam Hardman, Greta Pasztor, and Pastor Amalia) was impressed by her skill, energy, and vision.

Small Group Ministry

You will find (or can create) many ways to get to know others through small group ministry at Our Saviour's. Many of these groups take a pause during the summer because of vacation and travel schedules. This also provides the chance for informal book groups, movie and game nights, public witness, and other great ideas you might have to connect people here or out in the community. **From September to May** we offer vocal and bell choir and a variety of faith formation groups on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. Our young people connect with other Lutheran teens in Tucson through Super Youth. Pastor Mateo and Annette Chavez offer weekly Spanish classes for all levels. **Throughout the year**, you can connect with quilting, prayer shawl groups, our Caring Ministry team that reaches out to those at home or in care centers, and lay-led Bible and prayer groups. Talk with other members or the pastors if you'd like to learn more about these groups.

Do you get the eNews?

Every Monday, we send out a eNewsletter with a key events, readings, and prayers for the week. You can also find out what's happening on the Events Page on our website (www.lutherantucson.org). Fill out a green sheet or email the church office (oslc@lutherantucson.org) to sign up.

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY

8/17/2025

Presiding Minister Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister Ginny Phillips, Rev. Glenn Schrader
Communion Assistants Kathy DeVinney
Acolyte Ginny Phillips
Keyboard Yi Yun Chin
Cantor Aysen Millioğulları
Usher Angie Grandison, Jennifer Strand
Greeter Kathy DeVinney
Cross Bearer Asher Havenhill
Coffee Host Ron and Nancy Rude
Treats The fun team
Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background John Indermark

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY

8/24/2025

Presiding Minister Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister Bill DeVinney
Communion Assistants Jennifer Strand
Acolyte Jennifer Strand
Keyboard Nancy Rude
Cantor Aysen Millioğulları
Usher Jeanne Gacke, Ann DeVinney
Greeter Patty Sirls
Cross Bearer Mary Pflibsen
Coffee Host David Lester
Treats Saphir/Adrian Family
Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background John Indermark

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

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E-Mail: oslc@lutherantucson.org

Sunday Worship Times

9:00 - Sanctuary
Coffee following
10:30 Sunday Forum

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ministry Team

Rev. Amalia Vagts (ex 1004)
Lead Pastor
pastoramalia@lutherantucson.org

Rev. Glenn Schrader
Associate Pastor for Discipleship
pastorglenn@lutherantucson.org

Michele Ruttinger
Parish Administrator
parishadministrator@lutherantucson.org

Aysen Millioğulları
Music Director
Aysen@lutherantucson.org

Yi Yun Chin
Collaborative Musician

John Perez
Campus Caretaker

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Deacon Wendi Van Beek
Interim Director
wendi.lcmuofa@gmail.com
www.lcmuofa.org
520-771-9742 (LCM Office)

Online Offering

We have partnered with the ELCA and Tithely to offer secure online giving. Scan the image below using your smart phone to make your offering. Or, contact the church office to set up regular online giving.



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