## Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Sunday Worship October 26, 2025 Reformation Sunday 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration



## **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.

**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 Setting Three from Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

**Prayer Requests** Monica & Jude, William, Mary, Tracy & Marty, Schatzi, Jackie, and those at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Friends & Family: Prayers of joy for new parents Paige & Michael Marty and new daughter, Emily Claire. Prayers of joy for new parents Addison & Nicole Coen and new sons, Felix and Asher. Family and friends of Gerri Ballmer (Patty Sirls' cousin), Lia (granddaughter of Angie Grandison), Beverly (Mother of Hildi Williams), 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); 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; Daniel (neighbor's son of Gloria Schmidt); Rich (cousin- in-law of Jennifer Strand) Misty (friend of Shatzi Taylor).

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

## Overview of today's readings

The readings for this Sunday explore how trust in God involves honesty and humility. Jeremiah blends confession of sin with a plea for God's deliverance. The psalmist celebrates the grandeur of the Temple that still gives home to humble creatures of earth. Paul writes to Timothy of his confidence in God as he nears the end of ministry and life. Jesus tells a parable in Luke about humility in prayer.

## Today - Reforming Sunday and Newcomer Sunday and 80<sup>th</sup> Celebration

Today will be especially festive as we celebrate Reformation Sunday (and the founding of the Lutheran tradition) through reforming words and acts. This Sunday, we rejoice as we welcome new members to our community of faith. And, of course, we will continue the festive celebration that began on Saturday as we mark 80 years of ministry as Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. They are: Eric Howard, Katie and Curtis Kline, Richard Miller Jr., Vivianna Pederson, Scott Seal, and Justin Schneider. Affirming their membership: Joanna Keyl and Mary Wildner-Bassett.

As part of our 80<sup>th</sup> we welcome former Director of Music, Dr. Gréta Pásztor is our keyboardist today.

## October 26, 2025 Reformation Sunday

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

#### Welcome

**Prelude** "Vater Unser Im Himmelrich" by Michael Praetorius

Kent Pflibsen and Asher Havenhill

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ⊕ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.* 

#### Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of  $\oplus$  Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

#### \*GATHERING HYMN ELW #587 There's a Wilderness in God's Mercy

## There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

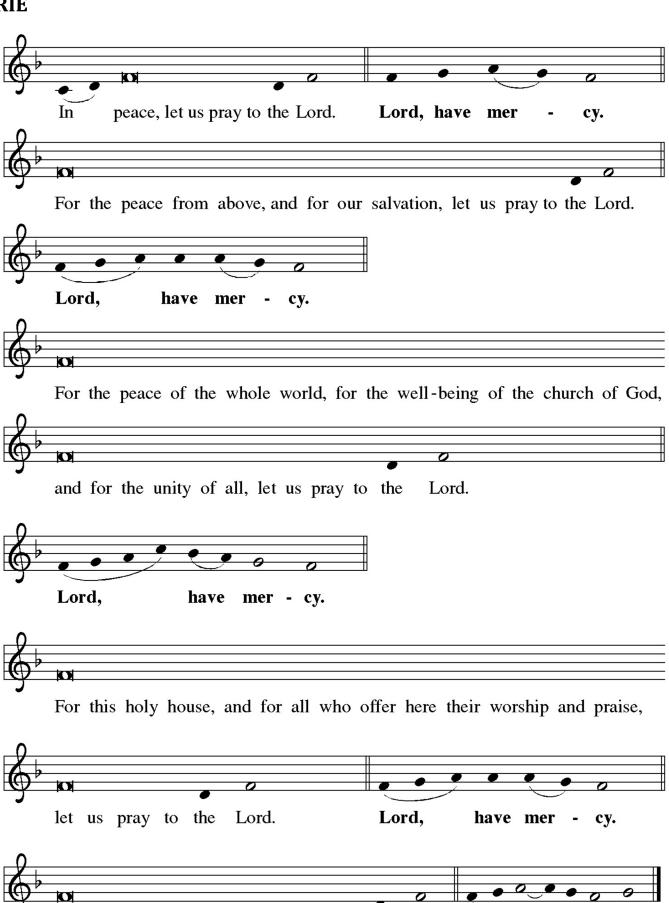


Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.
Music: ST. HELENA, Calvin Hampton, 1938–1984
Music © 1977 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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#### \*GREETING

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

#### \*KYRIE



men.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

#### FIRST READING Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

The first verse of Jeremiah 14 speaks of a drought that has come upon the land. For Jeremiah, it serves as a sign of God's imminent judgment on Israel. False prophets had sought in verses omitted by the lectionary to assure Israel that all was well. In our reading, Jeremiah honestly and humbly confesses Israel's sin and judgment. Yet the prophet also speaks on behalf of Israel. Jeremiah calls on God, who delivered Israel in the past, to do so again.

<sup>7</sup> Although our iniquities testify against us, act, O Lord, for your name's sake; our rebellions indeed are many, and we have sinned against you. <sup>8</sup> O hope of Israel, its savior in time of trouble, why should you be like a stranger in the land, like a traveler turning aside for the night? <sup>9</sup> Why should you be like someone confused, like a mighty warrior who cannot give help? Yet you, O Lord, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name; do not forsake us!

<sup>10</sup> Thus says the Lord concerning this people: Truly they have loved to wander; they have not restrained their feet; therefore the Lord does not accept them; now he will remember their iniquity and punish their sins.

<sup>19</sup> Have you completely rejected Judah? Does your heart loathe Zion? Why have you struck us down so that there is no healing for us? We look for peace but find no good, for a time of healing, but there is terror instead. <sup>20</sup> We acknowledge our wickedness, O Lord, the iniquity of our ancestors, for we have sinned against you. <sup>21</sup> Do not spurn us, for your name's sake; do not dishonor your glorious throne; remember and do not break your covenant with us. <sup>22</sup> Can any idols of the nations bring rain, or can the heavens give showers?

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

We set our hope on you, for it is you who do all this.

Is it not you, O Lord our God?



## Psalm 84:1-7

<sup>1</sup> How dear to me | is your dwelling, O | Lord of hosts!

<sup>2</sup> My soul has a desire and longing for the courts | of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the | living God.

 $^3$  Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may  $_1$  lay her young, by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my king  $_1$  and my God.

<sup>4</sup> Happy are they who dwell | in your house! They will always be | praising you.

<sup>5</sup> Happy are the people whose strength | is in you, whose hearts are set on the | pilgrims' way.

 $^6$ Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a  $_{\parallel}$  place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with  $_{\parallel}$  pools of water.

 $^{7}$  They will climb from  $_{\parallel}$  height to height, and the God of gods will be  $_{\parallel}$  seen in Zion.

## **SECOND READING** 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

Both letters to Timothy have offered words of counsel to the church in general and to Paul's younger colleague Timothy. Our passage closes the final of those letters. In that closing, Paul writes in quite personal terms as his own ministry and life draw to a close. His words affirm solid trust in God, come what may.

<sup>6</sup> As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

<sup>16</sup> At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! <sup>17</sup> But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup> The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## \*Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 18:9-14

<sup>9</sup> [Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: <sup>10</sup> "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' <sup>13</sup> But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' <sup>14</sup> I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

The gospel of Jesus Christ. Praise to you, O Christ.

#### **SERMON**

Silence for Reflection

#### **About the Jesus Prayer**

(from "Three ways to add something for Lent" by Rev. Laura Gentry, Women of the ELCA Cafe magazine, March 2018)

The early monastics known as the "Desert Fathers and Mothers" used a simple scriptural prayer called the Jesus Prayer, which they taught pilgrims to pray 3,000 times a day. The prayer is simply: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." For centuries, believers have used it as a mantra to call upon the powerful name of Jesus and beg him to anoint them with kindness. An easy way to begin is to sit comfortably and set a timer for somewhere between five and 20 minutes. Close your eyes and say the Jesus Prayer silently, connecting it with your breath. Continue to breathe the prayer in and out until the timer rings. As other thoughts surface, release them gently and return to the prayer. Another way to pray it is with a walking meditation. Say the prayers as you walk slowly, connecting the rhythm of your steps with your breath and the mantra. The more you use the Jesus Prayer, the more it prays itself within you.

#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #679 For the Fruit of All Creation

#### For the Fruit of All Creation



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS** New Members are introduced and received.

People of God,

do you promise to support and pray for these ones in their life in Christ? **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.** 

Let us welcome these siblings in Christ to this community of faith. We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.

Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

New members return to their seats.

#### \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assisting minister leads the prayers.

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

...We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

10

#### \*EXCHANGE OF PEACE

#### **OFFERING**

O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth by Jan Bende

Chancel Choir

(Congregation + Choir, last verse)

O Spirit, who did once restore.

The Church, that it might yet recall,

The bringer of good news to all: Breathe on your cloven church once more,

That in these gray and latter days,

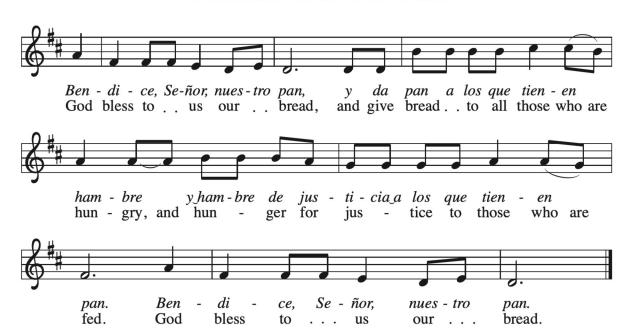
There may be those whose life is praise.

Each life a high doxology,

Unto the holy Trinity.

#### \*OFFERING PRAYER ACS #1056

## God Bless to Us Our Bread



Text: Argentine traditional, collected by Federico Pagura, 1923–2016; tr. John L. Bell, b. 1949 Music: BENDICE NUESTRO PAN, Argentine melody, collected by Federico Pagura; arr. John L. Bell Text and tune © 2002 World Council of Churches. All rights reserved. English text and arr. © WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

#### \*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 God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** 

Indeed, it is our joy to give thanks
In all ways and all places to you, Creator God.
In great love you sent us Jesus, your Only Begotten,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened arms to all.

...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,

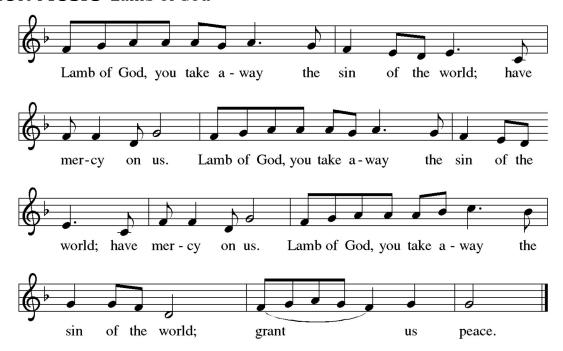
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

#### **COMMUNION**

Come to this Table of mercy. Become what you receive.

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



ELW #208 Praise to You, O God of Mercy ELW #751 O Lord Hear My Prayer

#### SENDING PRAYER

Gracious God,

in this meal you have drawn us to you and nourished us at your table with the living body and life blood of Christ. Send us forth to be your people in the world, to proclaim your truth and love, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*BLESSING

\*SENDING HYMN A Sturdy Shelter is Our God Shalom Rendering of "A Mighty Fortress"

Turn to follow the cross as it passes.

Hymn: "A Sturdy Shelter Is Our God" Shalom Rendering of "A Mighty Fortress"

- A sturdy shelter is our God,
   Whose refuge holds securely.
   God restrains the rising tide
   In which our world is swirling.
   With dangers all around
   We fear that we shall drown.
   From harm God would protect
   Each child from neglect.
   We praise God's loving nurture.
- 3. And though this world with violence spins
  Poised to harm the victim,
  We need not fear for Christ undoes
  Our scapegoat blaming system.
  Who bends to wash our feet,
  With love all hate defeats,
  To still the rage and mend,
  Turns stranger into friend,

Commanding us do likewise.

- 2. If we depend upon ourselves,
  Our strength is insufficient.
  We need the One who knows us well,
  Who's with God coefficient.
  In every age the same
  Christ Jesus is his name,
  Prince of Peace, Emmanuel
  Chooses with us to dwell
  And we may trust this mercy.
  - 4. The Word of God hides in the poor,
    Invites us there to find him.
    Jesus is begging at our door,
    Awaiting us to feed him.
    With bread and wine the means
    Through which Christ would be seen
    Among the very least;
    We are the kingdom's yeast.
    These are the things that make for peace.

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## \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you!

Thanks be to God.

#### OCTOBER HAPPENINGS

#### Come & See - Tuesdays, 11 AM,

Weekly faith formation conversations for everyone. This fall we will focus on the upcoming readings for the week. We'll spend time with the "Hidden Gem" reflection prepared by John Indermark, which will take us deeper into one of the texts. Held in the Patio Room. Bring your Bible our borrow one of our Lutheran Study Bibles. Led by Pastor Amalia.

## Centering Prayer - Tuesdays, 12:15

Centering Prayer is a form of Christian contemplation that involves sitting in silence, focusing on a sacred word, consenting to God's presence and action within. We pray for 20 minutes. Held in Koch Chapel. Beginners welcome.

#### Our Saviour's Chancel Choir - Thursdays at 6:30 PM

Choir rehearsals are Thursdays at 6:30PM. Everyone is welcome to sing with the choir! Share the music. Talk to Aysen Millioğulları about joining: Aysen@lutherantucson.org

#### Our Saviour Bell Choir - Mondays at 6:30 PM

We welcome all who are interested in ringing or just curious to see what is involved. If you have any questions just ask any current bell ringer or contact Kathie (kmmmiller@hotmail.com)

## Pray Without Ceasing - 1st and 3rd Mondays at 5:30 PM - Chapel

Open prayer space on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 5:30.

The service lasts about a half hour. Rooted in Christian tradition, open to Tucson community.

#### Gospel of Luke Book Study - Monday November 3at 6:30PM

Want to take a deeper dive into the Gospel of Luke?

Ever wondered what all those rich person parables are about? Interested in continuing to explore more the words of the Prophets for our world today? If the answer is yes, we invite you to join a Study of the Gospel of Luke through the lens of economic and social justice. A group is forming to study the new book by activist theologian, Ched Myers, *Healing Affluenza and Resisting Plutocracy - Luke's Jesus and Sabbath Economics*.

Join us Monday Nov. 3 at 6:30pm to 8pm in the Ramada Room. This journey with Luke will challenge us personally, in our households, and our communities, both locally and globally. Contact: Paula Miller for more information

## 2026 Generosity Appeal - Pie & Purpose

For over 80 years, Our Saviour's has been sharing God's love and mercy throughout Tucson and beyond. We will explore how we do that during our fall Generosity Appeal for 2026 - Pie & Purpose. Over the next month, we'll use pie and pie charts (and maybe bars and bar charts!) to learn more about church and household economics. Jesus reminds us in Matthew 6:21, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." When we invest in God's work, we express our love for Christ and for one another. As we enter this season of stewardship, we invite you to prayerfully consider how you can support our congregation's mission. On Sunday, November 16 following Worship, we will hold a congregational meal. We'll enjoy chicken pot pie and pumpkin pie as we talk about ministry and turn in our Statements of Intent. We hope as many of us as possible will gather that day to celebrate what we've done and look to the future together.

#### **SMALL GROUP MINISTRY**

**Centering Prayer** 

Meets weekly from 12:00 on Tuesdays in Koch Chapel. We begin at 12:15 with simple instruction, then 20 minutes of Centering (silent) prayer. No preparation or experience necessary.

#### Come and See

Meets weekly from 11:00 - 12:00 on Tuesdays in the Patio Room. Weekly faith formation conversations for everyone. This fall we will focus on the upcoming readings for the week. We'll spend time with the "Hidden Gem" reflection prepared by John Indermark, which will take us deeper into one of the texts. Held in the Patio Room. Bring your Bible our borrow one of our Lutheran Study Bibles. Please note the new day and time.

**Caring Ministry** 

This growing ministry is a group of people who visit, call, and send card to our members and friends at home. Talk with Bonnie Phelps if you are interested in getting involved.

**Quilting Group** 

Meets monthly on the third Tuesday of each month in the Activity Building. You can also pick up fabric and stitch at home. Contact Kathie Miller.

**Knit and Crochet Group** 

This group makes prayer shawls, as well as hats and lap blankets for migrants and others. Anyone interested in joining please text Donna Lounsbury, 520-400-2514

#### **Chancel Choir**

Rehearses weekly on Thursdays at 6:30 PM in the Activity Building. All singers welcome. Loving and supportive community - no prior choral experience required. Contact Aysen at Aysen@lutherantucson.org.

#### **Bell Choir**

Rehearses weekly on Mondays at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary. Happy group that enjoys creating joyous, uplifting music. Learners welcome. Contact Kathie Miller (kmmmiller@hotmail.com) or any other Ringers.

**Spanish Class** 

¿Āprender español? Or do you want to learn? Join this free one-hour drop-in class for all levels. Tuesdays at 6:30 in the Activity Building. Taught by Pastor Mateo and Annette Chavez. Email amchavez111@gmail.com to register.

Wednesday Bible Study

Meets Wednesdays at 10:30 in the Pocket Room. Contact Lauretta Olson for more information - landjo@cox.net.

**Grief Group** 

Meets the second Saturday of each month in the Ramada Room at 10:00AM. Led by Pastor Ricki from Hospice of the Valley

## Other Ways to Grow Your Faith:

Weekly events led by community and Our Saviour's members - open to anyone.

Mindfulness Meditation (Mondays, 1:30 - 2:30 PM); Men's Bible Study (Tuesdays, 7:00 AM)

# THOSE SERVING TODAY 10/26/2025

**Presiding Minister** Rev. Amalia Vagts **Assisting Minister** John Indermark

Communion Assistants Mary Pflibsen, Emily Nadler

Acolyte Asher Havenhill

Keyboard Dr. Gréta Pásztor Wung

Cantor Aysen Millioğulları

Music Chancel Choir

Usher Judy Indermark, Pam Hardman

**Greeter** Mary and Asher Havenhill

Cross Bearer Asher Havenhill

**Coffee Host** Ron and Nancy Rude

Treats Mary Havenhill

**Tech Team** Pflibsen/Bustamante

Scripture Background John Indermark

# THOSE SERVING SUNDAY 11/2/2025

**Presiding Minister** Rev. Amalia Vagts **Assisting Minister** Nilu Dorschner

**Communion Assistants** Bonnie Phelps, Patty Sirls

Acolyte Emily Nadler
Keyboard Betsy Dunlap
Cantor Jennifer Strand
Music Chancel Choir

**Usher** Emily Nadler, Kris Sanchez

Greeter Gloria Schmidt
Cross Bearer Eldon Krueger
Coffee Host Jennifer Strand
Treats Gloria Schmidt

**Tech Team** Pflibsen/Bustamante

Scripture Background John Indermark

#### Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

1200 N. Campbell Ave. Tucson, Arizona 85719 **Phone:** (520) 327-6521 **Website:** lutherantucson.org **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) pastoramalia@lutherantucson.org

Michele Ruttinger Parish Administrator Michele@lutherantucson.org

Aysen Millioğulları Music Director Aysen@lutherantucson.org

Betsy Dunlap Interim 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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