

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship - Season of Creation



Please place white portion of bulletin in basket for re-use.

WELCOME



ELCA

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

Welcome Newcomers

We hope you are comfortable here. A few notes about our bulletin and worship. The white part of the bulletin gets re-used each week to conserve resources. The right-side margin contains details about the service and readings to help you connect more fully with worship. The yellow insert contains today's readings, songs, prayer requests, and announcements. Please take it home for your continued use this week. You can find more details for newcomers on the back page of the white bulletin. We are glad you are here - you are welcome in this space because of who you are.

Being Lutheran

As Lutherans, we see, hear, teach, and follow Jesus for the sake of our neighbor. Neighbor means anyone other than us, including creation. We see God in vulnerability - God meets us at the cross. In our deepest pain, God is present. Baptized into Christ, we live a new life - claimed and named forever as God's beloved. In the bread and wine of communion we receive and share Christ with all of creation. This is because of who God is, not because of what we do (or don't do). We receive God's grace through faith - in Scripture, the living word of God, and the sacraments of baptism and communion, which transform our lives so that we love and serve God, our neighbor and all of creation. A transformed life is one centered in Christ by the Spirit, following and trusting in God alone; freed to love, liberate, and serve.

Season after Pentecost

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence for Reflection

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

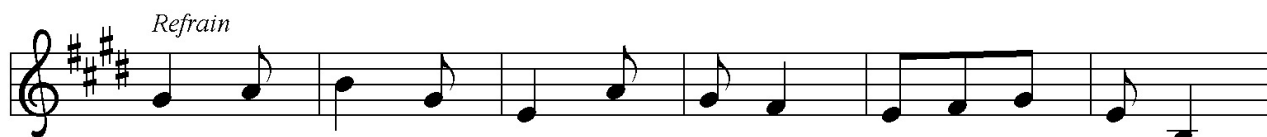
*An asterisk indicates
the congregation
should stand in body
and/or spirit.
Congregation's
speaking and singing
parts are in bold
font.*

*As we prepare for
worship, take time to
look around, to settle
in, to receive the Holy
Spirit's presence.*

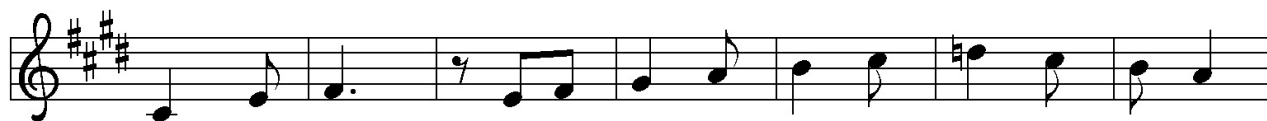


*All may make the sign
of the cross, the sign
that is marked at
baptism, as the
presiding minister
begins.*

***GATHERING HYMN** *Now the Feast and Celebration*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

***GREETING**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

FIRST READING: *See insert*
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: *See insert*

SECOND READING: *See insert*
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



The readings and psalm can be found in the yellow insert.

Congregation:

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

***GOSPEL**

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

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

Listen deeply as the gospel lesson is being read

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *See insert*

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**
...God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

***EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

OFFERING



*OFFERING PRAYER

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

Refrain:
Congregation:



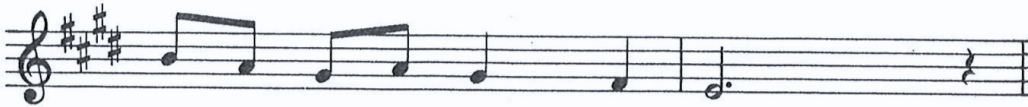
As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in-to one to be-come our bread;



so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be



gath-ered in-to one in you.



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,—
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre-a-tion shares this feast with you.

to Refrain

*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.**

Holy God, mighty and merciful...

...Your mercy endures forever. **Your mercy endures forever.**

Trusting in the mercy and compassion of God who is with us as Parent and Creator, we pray as Jesus taught,

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.

This congregation tends to use the traditional form of the Lord's Prayer. You are welcome to pray using other versions, words, or languages that may be more familiar to you. You are also encouraged to address God in a way that most opens your heart to relationship with God (Creator, Father and Mother, Abba, Our Only Home are a few options). Jesus taught this form of prayer to the disciples to encourage sincere and meaningful conversation with God.

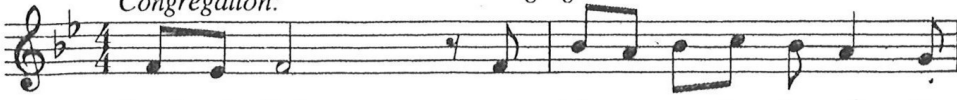
COMMUNION

The gifts of creation shared with God's creatures.
Come and share!

COMMUNION HYMNS

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation: *Congregation or assistant:*



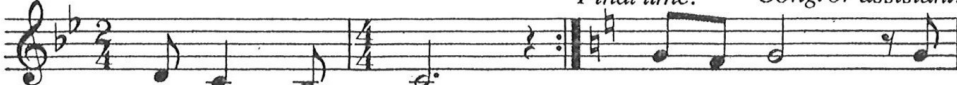
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

Congregation:



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,

Final time: *Cong. or assistant:*

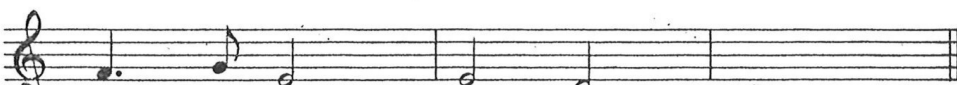


mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Additional invocations:

you break the chains of hatred and fear:
you are the way of justice and peace:
you are the way of mercy and love:

Communion Hymns: *See insert*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING PRAYER

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

*SENDING HYMN *See insert*

*DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God!

*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; the grape juice is
clear. Please let an
usher know if you
would like communion
brought to your pew.*



*Turn to follow the
cross as it passes and
leads us to love and
service in the world.*

Deepen Your Faith This Fall

Come & See – Tuesdays at 11:00 AM, Patio Room

Weekly faith formation conversations for anyone, no preparation needed. We spend time reflecting on one of the upcoming readings for Sunday and with the "Hidden Gem" reflection prepared by John Indermark. The conversation is intended to deepen contemplative Scripture reading and prepare for Sunday worship. Held in the Patio Room. Bring your Bible or borrow a Lutheran Study Bible. Led by Pastor Amalia.

Bell Choir - Mondays at 6:30 PM, Sanctuary

We welcome all who are interested in ringing or just curious to see what is involved. If you have any questions, ask any current bell ringer or contact Kathie Miller.

Chancel Choir - Thursdays, 6:30 PM, Activity Building

Everyone is welcome to join our choir. Experienced and new singers are invited to help us share music during worship. Chancel Choir rehearses weekly with Dr. Aysen Millioğulları and sings twice a month during worship. Talk to Aysen if you would like to learn more.

Public Faith Team - 4th Monday of the month, 6:00 PM, Patio Room

Hear the Gospel on Sunday, live it on Monday. Meet with others to engage in community advocacy in support of immigrants, people who are homeless, and others in need. Talk with Paula Miller.

Sunday Forums, Sundays at 10:30 AM, Activity Building

Throughout the fall, we will hold a variety of learning opportunities on Sunday mornings following worship. Check the bulletin or Weekly eNews for upcoming forums.

Worship Ministers

Help prepare for and lead worship. Ushers, assisting ministers, altar care, A/V tech team – offer to do what you love or learn a new skill. Talk to Pastor Amalia or email oslc@lutherantucson.org

Coffee Hosts

Do you come to church for the coffee? Help make it happen – hospitality-minded people needed to prepare coffee and serve treats (brought by others)

Other Weekly Events at Our Saviour's

Meditation Group, Mondays at 1:30 PM. Call Kevin 520-290-6949 for more information.

Men's Bible Study, Tuesdays at 7:00 AM, Activity Building

Spanish Class, Tuesdays, 6:30 PM, Activity Building – open to all levels, free

Community Bible Study, Wednesdays, 10:30 AM, Activity Building

Lutheran Campus Ministry Dinner & Worship, Wednesdays (UA, PCC, other young adults) 6:00 PM



Newcomers + We're glad you're here. Please fill out the green slip in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. You're welcome to share in Holy Communion.

Families + we have a small play area (pray-ground) up front. The joyful sounds and movements of children in worship are the welcome sounds of children growing in faith. Parents, thank you for doing the hard work of worshipping with children. This congregation is here to support you.

Hearing Assistance + headphones are available to assist in hearing the service. Please contact an usher to get set up with one.

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.

Liturgy + Our sung liturgy is from Now the Feast and Celebration, by Marty Haugen.

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.



Our Saviour's Council Members

Patty Sirls - President
Meg Hughes - Vice President
Jennifer Strand - Secretary
Shelly Adrian
Eric Howard

Joanna Keyl
Diane Siefkes
Rachel Starner

Sheila Bustamante - Treasurer



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

9:00 - Sanctuary
Coffee following

Office Hours

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

Ministry Team

Rev. Amalia Vagts (ex 1004)

Michele Ruttinger
Parish Administrator

Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
Music Director

Dawn Hartley
Collaborative Musician

Paula Miller
Minister of Community
Engagement

David Zezulka
Facilities Director

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Pastor Jenn Luong
Director

www.lcmuofa.org
520-771-9742 (LCM Office)

Deacon Wendi Van Beek
Deacon of Community
Engagement

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FIRST READING EXODUS 17:1-7

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵ The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

PSALM 78:1-4, 12-16 (Pulpit Side - Regular; Piano Side - Bold)

¹ Hear my teaching, O my people;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
² **I will open my mouth in a parable;**
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times—
³ that which we have heard and known, and what our forebears have told us,
we will not hide from their children.
⁴ **We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord,**
and the wonderful works God has done.
¹² **God worked marvels in the sight of their ancestors,**
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan,
¹³ splitting open the sea and letting them pass through;
making the waters stand up like walls;
¹⁴ **leading them with a cloud by day,**
and all the night with a glow of fire;
¹⁵ splitting the rocks in the wilderness
and giving them drink as from the deep;
¹⁶ **bringing streams out of a rock,**
making them flow down like a river.

SECOND READING Philippians 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

Sunday September 27 2026

Today's reading opens with a revealing phrase about Israel's journey in Exodus: they "journeyed by stages." These stages do not refer to wheeled carts or wagon trains. These stages are more of phases in the journey. Sometimes the journey moves forward, when minds are set in trust of God. Sometimes the journey moves backward, when minds splinter into murmuring and complaint.

The psalmist lifts up a key theme of Biblical faith: remembrance. Here it is remembrance kept alive over generations. This song remembers Israel's time in the wilderness. In this Season of Creation, the psalm remembers life-giving waters opened by God's powerful and gracious hands.

Absence, it is said, makes the heart grow fonder. In his letter to the church at Philippi as he sits in prison, absence leads Paul to write some of his most powerful words about the mind. Three times in this passage Paul uses the word "mind" to speak not simply of Christian unity, but humility and love. Christ-minded is not merely a state of being. It is the means to do what God seeks.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

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

*Listen deeply as the
gospel lesson is being
read*

***HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #517 Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word**

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW #712 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW #526 God Is Here!

Please turn to follow
the cross as it passes
and leads us to love
and service in the
world.

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

Enviado soy de Dios



En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain
un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;
me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.
A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America
English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

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Sunday Forum - Almost Everything You've Ever Wanted to Ask About the Church Sexuality Social Statement But Have Been Afraid To Ask

In 2009, the ELCA Churchwide Assembly adopted a social statement called "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust." In addition to other things, the adoption of the statement and implementing resolutions paved the way for recognition of same sex couples and for partnered LGBTQ persons to serve as clergy in the ELCA. Because much has changed since then, the denomination began a process a few years ago to reconsider some portions of the statement that are outdated or failed to recognize the breadth and diversity of human sexuality. Some editorial changes were made at the 2025 Churchwide Assembly. More substantive changes will be considered at the 2028 Churchwide Assembly, including the frame of "bound conscience" used in the document. There is a Churchwide Task Force working on draft recommendations, and they have asked for input from ELCA members by September 30. Pastor Amalia will provide some background information and share how you can offer your thoughts with the Task Force.

SPECIAL MUSIC TODAY:

PRELUDE *Way Maker/Surrounded*, arr. by Caleb + Kelsey

Danny White and Aysen Milliogullari

OFFERING *Make Me An Instrument of Thy Peace*, by Mary McDonald

Chancel Choir

Prayer Requests: Pam Hardman; Chris Doak; Alecia Chrin; Justin Schneider; Gerry Meyer; Corky Ronstadt; Mary Neff; Lydia Slipp; the Hughes Family; and all at home and in care facilities.

Names will generally remain on the list for three weeks, unless requested for renewal. Please contact the church office for corrections, updates, and additions.

Our Extended Community: Friends and Family of Kathy Gregory upon the death of her husband Gary (friends of Ann and Bill DeVinney); Liz (friend of Mary Wildner-Bassett); Sarah (great niece of Donna Lounsbury); Becky (Daughter of Mary Wildner-Bassett); Josh, Mary Ann (friends of Chris and Theda Doak); Megan (niece of Chris and Theda Doak); Jennifer, Sally, and Ashley, Gwen, and Tyler on the passing of their daughter Elora (friends of Kathy DeVinney); Grant and Shirley (brother and sister-in-law of Theda Doak); John (son of Martha Neff Stum and Paul Stum); Daniel (neighbor's son of Gloria Schmidt); Will (nephew of Chris and Theda Doak); Leaticia, Azogan, Sidibe, and Zinsou, (friends of Rachel Starner); Mary Etta (friend of Suzanne Hesh); Rita (friend of John and Judy Indermark); Nancy (friend of Cindy Bales).

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OVERVIEW OF TODAY’S SCRIPTURE:

The readings for this eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost link how the setting of minds can influence our lives, for better or worse. The “stages” of Israel’s journey in Exodus often result from Israel’s mindfulness (or not) of God. The psalmist appeals for remembrance of God’s life-giving works. Paul in Philippians urges the church to find unity and love by having the mind of Christ. Jesus frames a dispute over authority with a parable. Both story and dispute hinge on the ability of minds to change for the good.

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THOSE SERVING THIS SUNDAY 9/27/26

- Presiding Minister** Rev. Amalia Vagts
- Assisting Minister** Bill DeVinney
- Communion Assistants** Deacon Wendi Van Beek, Olga Ryan
- Acolyte** Jennifer Strand
- Keyboard** Dawn Hartley
- Cantor** Nilu Dorschner
- Music** Chancel Choir
- Usher** Ann DeVinney, Diane Siefkes
- Greeter** Patty Sirls
- Cross Bearer** Olga Ryan
- Coffee Host** Joanna Keyl
- Treats** Nancy Rude
- Tech Team** Pflibsen/Bustamante
- Scripture Background** John Indermark

THOSE SERVING NEXT SUNDAY 10/4/2026

- Presiding Minister** Rev. Amalia Vagts
- Assisting Minister** Mo Krieg
- Communion Assistants** Deacon Wendi Van Beek, Linda Zizka
- Acolyte** Jennifer Strand
- Keyboard** Dawn Hartley
- Cantor** Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
- Music** Bell Choir
- Usher** Patty Sirls and Diane Siefkes
- Greeter** Gloria Schmidt
- Cross Bearer** Asher Havenhill
- Coffee Host** Sharon Reinbott
- Treats** Sue McLaren
- Tech Team** Pflibsen/Bustamante
- Scripture Background** John Indermark