

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship

September 14, 2025

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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.



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

Our Extended Friends & Family: Mami, Henry and Mayu (sister-in-law, brother and niece of Erich Saphir and Shelly Adrian), Lia (granddaughter of Angie Grandison) 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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**80TH
ANNIVERSARY**
Celebration!



1945

Dirt. The corner lot for our Chapel lay flat and dusty for two years, as we haggled with architects. Meanwhile we happily welcomed new members weekly to our temporary quarters at the YWCA and Roskrue Junior High.



SATURDAY OCTOBER 25, 2025
10AM History Walk
12PM Celebratory Meal

September 14, 2025

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome

Prelude *In the Garden* by C. Austin Miles,
arranged by Asher Havenhill by Kent Pflibsen & 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 ☩ 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 #807 Come, Thou Fount 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.

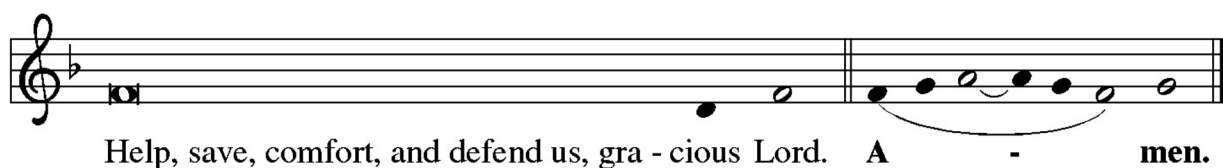
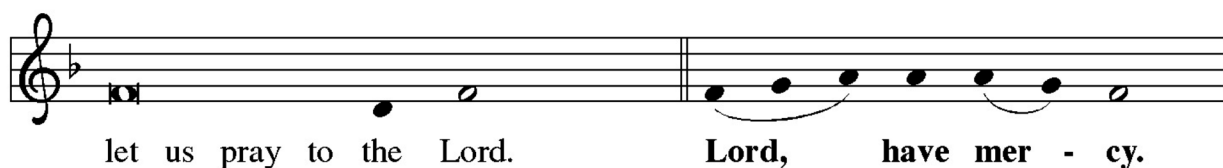
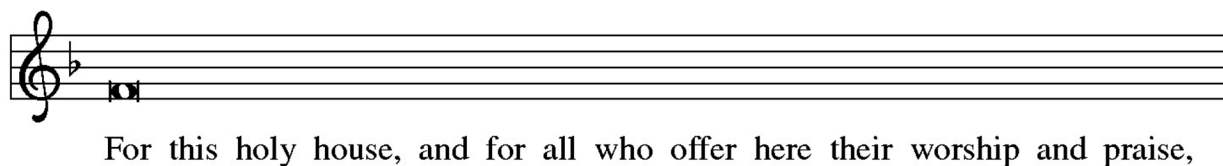
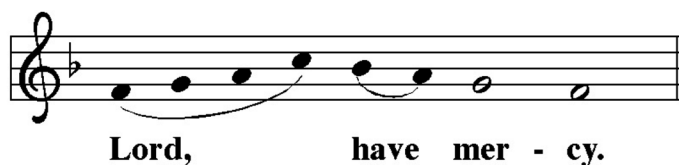
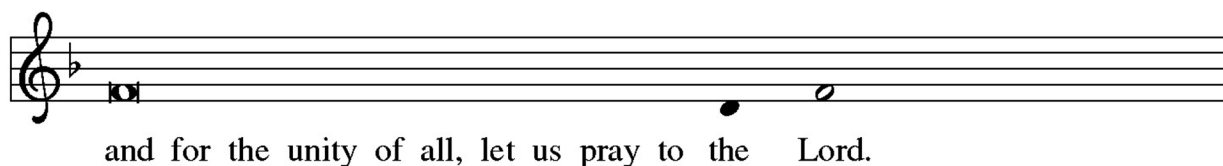
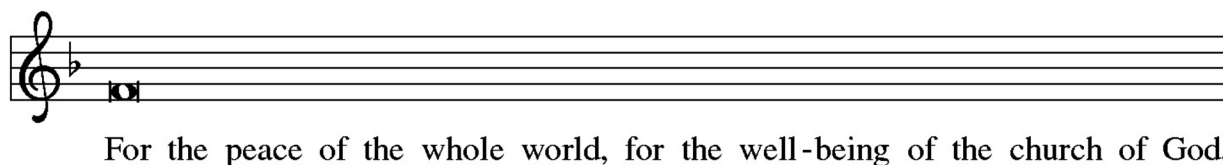
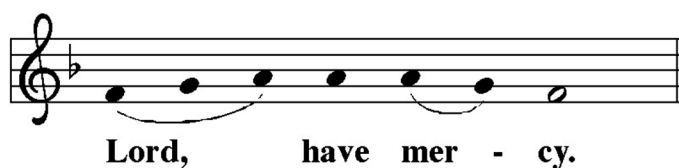
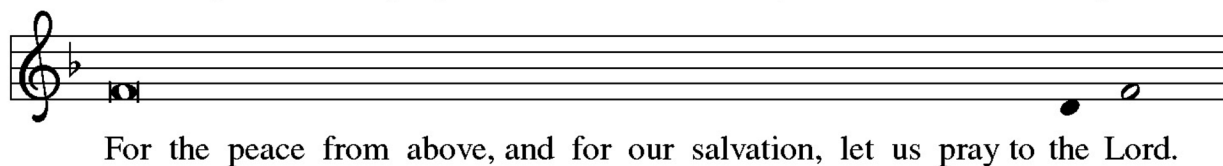
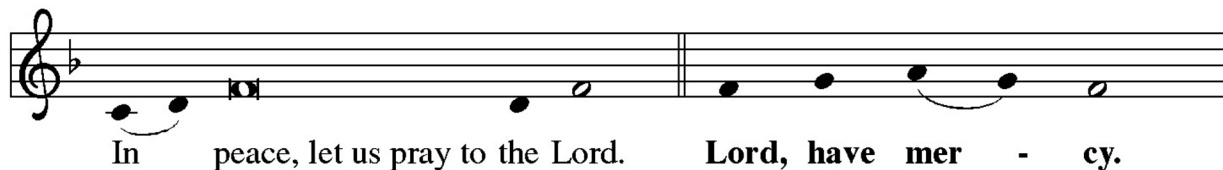
Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

*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



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

FIRST READING Exodus 32:7-14

Our first reading is from the Old Testament book of Exodus.

Israel's wilderness journey has already had its share of complaints and stumbles. But now, matters come to a tipping point. Tired of waiting for Moses to return, tired of waiting for God to do more for them: the people take things into their own hands. They fashion a god they can control in the form of a golden calf. The irony is: our text will not narrate God interceding with Moses so he doesn't abandon them for their sin. Moses will be the one making that plea to God.

⁷ The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹ The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



Psalm 51:1-10

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

² **Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.**

³ For I know | my offenses,
and my sin is ev- | er before me.

⁴ **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment. R**

⁵ Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mother's womb.

⁶ **Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**

⁷ Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

⁸ **Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**

⁹ Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.

¹⁰ **Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me. R**

SECOND READING 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Just before our reading, Paul had strong words to say against some he saw to be false teachers in the church Timothy served. The tone shifts dramatically in our passage. Paul is no longer on the attack, but confessing of his own need for and experience of mercy. Paul offers himself as an example of the transformative nature of God's grace for any who would follow Jesus.

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.



*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Gospel

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

Luke 15:1-10

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.]² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

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

SERMON

Silence for Reflection

***HYMN OF THE DAY** ELW #588 There's a Wildness in God's Mercy

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind-ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
and we mag - ni - fy its strict-ness with a zeal God will not own.
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.
Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assisting minister leads the prayers.

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

...We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

*EXCHANGE OF PEACE

OFFERING

Down by the Riverside arranged by Asher Havenhill, - Kent Pflibsen & Asher Havenhill

OFFERING PRAYER (sung)

ACS #1056 *God Bless to Us Our Bread*

God Bless to Us Our Bread



Ben - di - ce, Se-ñor, nues-tro pan, y da pan a los que tien - en
God bless to . . us our . . bread, and give bread . . to all those who are

ham - bre y ham - bre de jus - ti - cia a los que tien - en
hun - gry, and hun - ger for jus - tice to those who are

pan. Ben - di - ce, Se - ñor, nues - tro pan.
fed. 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

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*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,**

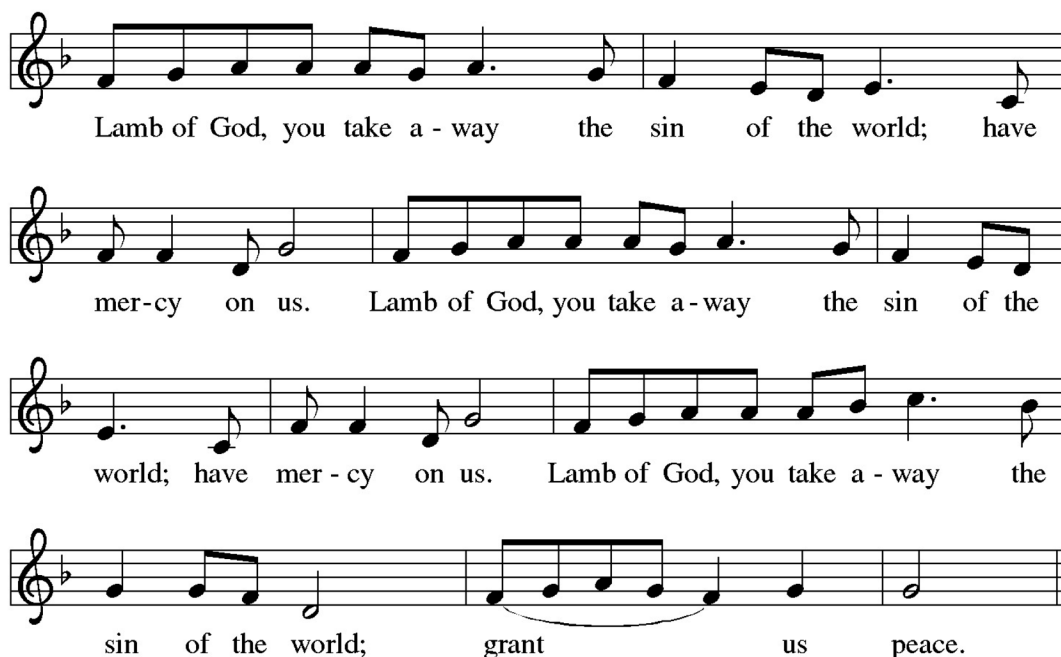
**as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

ELW #664 Heaven is Singing for Joy

ELW 494 For the Bread Which You Have Broken

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** ELW #779 Amazing Grace How Sweet the Sound

Turn to follow the cross as it passes.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you!

Thanks be to God.

SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS

Come & See - Tuesdays, 11 AM, begins Sept 9

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 or borrow one of our Lutheran Study Bibles. Please note the new day and time. 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.

Newcomer Gatherings - Sept 21, following Worship

If you are new to the Our Saviour's community and thinking about joining, or engaging more deeply in worship and community life, and would like to get to know more about Our Saviour's, please join a Newcomer Gathering on September 21. We will meet in the Activity Building "Pocket Room" following worship. Email Pastor Amalia if you would like to sign up or learn more. We will receive newcomers to the congregation in worship on October 26 (Reformation Day).

Last Supper Club - Tonight 6 PM

We will hold another Last Supper Club (dinner church) on Sunday, September 14 at 6:00 PM in the Chapel. Dinner church is a model of worship that combines dinner and a worship service. Last Supper Club is open to anyone. Filled with Spirit. Alcohol-free. LGBTQ+ affirming. This is a meal and church all at once. The music and worship style is more relaxed than Sunday worship. We will gather around one big table in the Chapel. Led by Pastor Amalia and Sophia Rankin.

We are looking for a small team to help prepare and set-up for the service and meal. If you can help, please contact Pastor Amalia.

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)

Gospel of Luke Book Study

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 Sept. 29th 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

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 or 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

¿Aprender 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.

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

9/14/2025

Presiding Minister Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister Mary Pflibsen
Communion Assistants Bill DeVinney
Acolyte Mary Pflibsen
Keyboard Betsy Dunlap
Musician Kent Pflibsen, Asher Havenhill
Cantor Jennifer Strand
Usher Angie Grandison, Laurretta Olson
Greeter Sophia Rankin
Cross Bearer Eldon Krueger
Coffee Host Catalina Rankin
Treats Laurretta Olson
Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background John Indermark

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY

9/21/2025

Presiding Minister Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister Scott Koenig
Communion Assistants John Indermark
Acolyte Scott Koenig
Keyboard Betsy Dunlap
Cantor Aysen Millioğulları
Usher Jeanne Gacke, David Lester
Greeter Donna Lounsbury, Daphne Myers
Cross Bearer Asher Havenhill
Coffee Host Fred and Donna Hudson
Treats Mary Havenhill
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)
Lead Pastor
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.

