

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

1205 North Lincoln Ave O'Fallon, IL
(618) 632-0126
www.mybslc.org
Worship –9:30 am.

Rev. Vernon Lintvedt, Pastor
Lector: Pastor Akoh Daniel Kofi
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist
Sunday School & Bible Class in recess until Sept 10

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 13, 2023

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT SUN – Worship in the Park (10 AM); Rally Day; Picnic at City Park Pavilion. Sign up today!

POOL PARTY @ Casa Monaco (home of Joe and Marcie) 4 PM



For information on all church events, sermon recordings, church calendar, newsletters: GO TO: www.mybslc.org

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *2 Samuel 22:47; Psalm 18:3, 6, 46*

P: The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,

C: **and exalted be the God of my salvation.**

P: I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,

C: **and I am saved from my enemies.**

P: In my distress I called upon the LORD;

C: **to my God I cried for help.**

P: From His temple He heard my voice,

C **and my cry to Him reached His ears.**

P: The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,

C: **and exalted be the God of my salvation.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us consider our unworthiness to come before almighty God and confess our sins to Him in the presence of one another.

P: We confess, Creator Lord, that like Job, we become angry at times with what You have allowed in our lives and we have wondered why.

C: **Forgive our pride and turn us to humbly rely on Your gracious plans for us.**

P: We confess, Savior Lord, that unlike Paul, we have neglected people around us who have not accepted Your sacrifice for them.

C: **Forgive our self-centeredness and inaction, and move us to tell them the Good News as You provide opportunity.**

P: We confess, Spirit of truth, that like Peter, we have failed to trust You in all things and have been overwhelmed by the storms of life.

C: **Forgive our weakness of faith and enable us to follow where You lead the way.**

P: All things in heaven and earth are under God's rule. His almighty power was shown chiefly in sending His Son into this fallen world to destroy the powers of sin, death, and the devil. Your pride, self-centeredness, weakness of faith, and anything else that would separate you from His great love have been forgiven for Jesus' sake. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE "I Will Praise You in This Storm" Casting Crowns

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God,

C: **preserve us from all harm and danger**

P: that we, being ready in both body and soul,

C: **may cheerfully accomplish what You want done;**

P: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Job 38:4–18* (God questions Job.)

"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone,
when the morning stars sang together
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb,
when I made clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling band,
and prescribed limits for it
and set bars and doors,
and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stayed'?

"Have you commanded the morning since your days began,
and caused the dawn to know its place,
that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,
and the wicked be shaken out of it?
It is changed like clay under the seal,
and its features stand out like a garment.
From the wicked their light is withheld,
and their uplifted arm is broken.

"Have you entered into the springs of the sea,
or walked in the recesses of the deep?
Have the gates of death been revealed to you,
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?
Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?
Declare, if you know all this.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Romans 10:5–17*

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.)

For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for

"Their voice has gone out to all the earth,
and their words to the ends of the world."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Matthew 14:27*

P: Alleluia. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying,

C: **"Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 14:22–33*

(Jesus walks on water and rescues sinking Peter.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus.

But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN No. 717 "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

**Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!**

**O Christ! The Lord of hill and plain,
O'er which our traffic runs amain
By mountain pass or valley low;
Wherever, Lord, Thy people go,
Protect them by Thy guarding hand
From ev'ry peril on the land.**

**O Spirit, whom the Father sent
To spread abroad the firmament;
O Wind of heaven, by Thy might
Save all who dare the eagle's flight,
And keep them by Thy watchful care
From ev'ry peril in the air.**

**O Trinity of love and pow'r!
Our people shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad praise from air and land and sea.**

SERMON "God Reveals Himself in a Storm" Matthew 14:22-33 Pastor Vern

ALL: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died and was buried.
 He descended into hell.
 The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy Christian Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P: Almighty God, You laid the foundations of the earth and set bounds and limits to all things. We give You thanks for Your glorious creation, including our own bodies and souls. In our sin, we have earned for ourselves death, and Your creation has been subjected to futility; yet in Your Son, You grant us forgiveness and new life. Help us to live in righteousness through faith in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious Lord, Your Word is near to the hearts of Your people. Grant them courage to speak the Gospel faithfully before the world. Let those who hear confess Jesus Christ as Lord and be saved. Remember all who endure persecution for His name, and strengthen them for a bold witness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, we ask You to raise up pastors, teachers, missionaries and servants for all church-work vocations. Bless church planters and new congregations, that they may endure. Breathe Your Spirit into Your church and bring hope and renewal to all struggling congregations and to the pastors who serve them. Give us boldness to proclaim Your mysteries. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Help us to trust in You at all times, Father, that we may not doubt or fear when the storms rage. Help us to see the revelation of Yourself in the storms of life and to know that You are the God who calms the troubled seas. Grant us confidence in all that You have promised to bestow daily and richly upon Your people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: O Lord, You supported Peter in his doubts and fears. Keep us from sinking into despair when we suffer the trials of this mortal life. Be with those who are in need **[especially those on our prayer list. Today we thank You for the recoveries You have granted to Chris Wickline, Jean Miller, Bob Morton, and Wayne Kemp. Watch over Karen Anders as she plans with her doctors the right approach to removing her cancer and over Clarene Wilson (Mary Stake's aunt) suffering from breast cancer .** Grant us all in our troubles, Your Spirit, that our hearts may not waver, and keep us in the grasp of Your grace, that we may not lose our way or be overcome by weariness and struggle. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Lift the hearts of those celebrating birthday celebrations this week. Grant Your favor and peace to **George Kruse, Emily Sanchez, Diane Schefelker, Janet Satrom, Patty Gruhn, John Lundeby and Jared Brockmeyer as we too honor them on their special day;** Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Lord God, we know that marriage is precious in Your sight. In Your word You have said that no one should separate what You have joined together. Thank You for bringing and sustaining Dan and Rachel Schmidt in their marriage vows. Continue to give them hearts to honor their marriage in the way that You have called them. Help them each day to remain true to one another, and to honor their vows until life ends. Be with them through stormy seasons, and help them to grow stronger as a team, united in their support of each other. Lord in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

L: Gracious Lord, give ear to the prayers of Your people and lead us to trust in Your mercy without fear, that we may be confident that You will grant to us all things needful to us and our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who reveals His glory in our storms and teaches us to pray, saying:

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE LORD *Numbers 6:24–26*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C: **Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE LORD *Numbers 6:24–26*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C: **Amen.**

HYMN No. 785 “We Praise You, O God”

**We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.**

**We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o’ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.**

**With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!**

SENDING

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God!**