

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

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

Pastor Tony Troup (618-340-8375), Vacancy Pastor
Pastor Perry Schefelker (618-322-7498), Vacancy Pastor

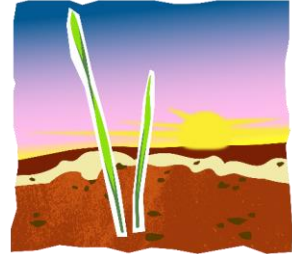
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist
Care & Share Fellowship Group: 10:45am

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 16, 2024

AS WE GATHER

Once again, the Word of God in our ears this day speaks of the glorious and happy goal that God's salvation promises to all who believe in His saving mercy, grace, and love. From of old, the Lord has promised a secure future in His presence both now and especially in the eternity of life in the resurrection. Though we experience the weakness and maybe even dread of growing old, by faith we are like firm trees planted by the strength of God. That faith is the very creation of God the Holy Spirit, which grows and remains strong regardless of our circumstances. So even though we become discouraged at times, our confidence is always renewed by God as we remain steadfast in connection with His mighty Word.



HYMN #704 "Renew Me, O Eternal Light"

**Renew me, O eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from Your holy face.**

**Remove the pow'r of sin from me
And cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will
Temptations of the flesh to still.**

**Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire,
And with new life my soul inspire.**

**Grant that I only You may love
And seek those things which are above
Till I behold you face to face,
O Light eternal, through Your grace.**

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *2 Corinthians 5:1; Psalm 1:1–2*

P: We know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God,
C: **a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.**

P: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, . . .

C: **but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P: Let us prepare to receive God's strengthening of our faith this day as we confess our weakness and sin.
- C: **Merciful God, we confess to You our discouragements; all our sins of thought, word, and deed; and the inward groaning of our souls. For the sake of Your Son's own bitter suffering and death on behalf of all, grant us forgiveness and the strength of renewed faith that we may live today as joyful citizens of heaven.**
- P: You are the planting and the harvest of the Lord. I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

HYMN OF PRAISE # 601 "All Who Believe and are Baptized" (v. 1 & 2)

**All who believe and are baptized
Shall see the Lord's salvation;
Baptized into the death of Christ,
They are a new creation.
Through Christ's redemption they shall stand
Among the glorious, heav'nly band
Of ev'ry tribe and nation.**

**With one accord, O God, we pray:
Grant us Your Holy Spirit.
Help us in our infirmity
Through Jesus' blood and merit.
Grant us to grow in grace each day
That by this sacrament we may
Eternal life inherit.**

SALUTATION

- Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: Let us pray.... Lord God, our hope and Redeemer, we thank You for planting the seed of saving faith in our hearts by means of Your Word entering our ears and Your Sacraments touching our bodies. Grant, we pray, the strengthening of this faith that we may walk with confidence in our lives now, taking great courage in the promise of eternal life with You; 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 *Ezekiel 17:22–24* (A promise of the Messiah)

Thus says the Lord GOD: *I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it.*

L: This is the Word of the Lord
C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *2 Corinthians 5:1–10 (11–17)* (Awaiting the new body and a new creation)

For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened*not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

L: This is the Word of the Lord
C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *2 Peter 3:18a*

C: Alleluia, alleluia! Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 4:26–34* (The growing seed and the mustard seed)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.
C: Glory to You, O Lord.

And he said, *The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.*

And he said, *With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.*

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB # 577 “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”

**Almighty God, your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.**

**Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.**

**Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundred fold
The fruits of peace and joy.**

**So when the precious seed is sown,
Life giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know.**

SERMON

Pastor Mark Winkelman

CREED *Nicene Creed*

**C: I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✕ of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P:** Let us pray.
We pray, O Lord, for Your holy church throughout the world. As at creation You spoke and it was created, so by Your mighty Word spoken into the hearts and through the witness of prophets and apostles, Your church has grown over all the earth throughout the ages. Continue to speak Your blessing and power to and through all pastors and teachers, and inspire the shared witness of all Your people to the joy and salvation of many people. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
- P:** As nations continue to be disrupted by conflicts, wars, and rumors of wars, send leaders who know and desire the ways of peace. Grant unity of purpose especially to our country that we may live in peace. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
- P:** For all Your people here present who have received Your blessed Word, grant the increase of faith and confidence to know that You bless us with Your promise of eternal life both now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
- P:** Hear our prayers for all who are in trouble, adversity, need, sickness, or fear of death. Touch each one who calls on You with Your healing and steady hand, and give them courage even in their trials. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
- P:** Remembering all Your saints, the faithful who have gone before us, especially those most dear to us, keep us in firm faith all our days with the joyous prospect of the day of resurrection and life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.
- P:** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C: Amen.

SELF-EXAMINATION

The Apostle Paul encourages us to examine ourselves in the light of God's law so that we may see our sin and recognize our need of a Savior. We take a moment to reflect on this need and then to ask ourselves the following questions:

1. Are you baptized in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
2. Do you know you are a sinner in need of God's grace?
3. Do you believe Jesus died to atone for your sins?
4. Do you believe that God offers His forgiveness through the "real" presence of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine?
5. Do you seek to amend your sinful life?

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS LSB P: 161

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;
1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My \times body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My \times blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.
C: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

C: **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.**

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI “Lamb of God,” LSB P. 163

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us. ‘Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Video

720 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

**We walk by faith and not by sight,
No gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke,
But we believe Him near.**

**We may not touch His hands and side,
Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice
And cry "My Lord and God!"**

**Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near
And seek where You are found.**

**For You, O resurrected Lord,
Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word,
Beneath the bread and wine.**

**Lord, when our life of faith is done,
In realms of clearer light
We may behold You as You are,
With full and endless sight.**

577 "Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast"

**Almighty God, your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.**

**Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.**

**Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundred fold
The fruits of peace and joy.**

**So when the precious seed is sown,
Life giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE “Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise,” LSB P. 164

**Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
Tell everyone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray.
O Lord, by Your holy communion with us, grant us good courage to walk by faith with the joyful prospect of reaching the goal of our heavenly home, where You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION *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 #892 “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

**Come, ye thankful people, come;
Raise the song of harvest home.
All be safely gathered in
Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied.
Come to God’s own temple, come;
Raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the world is God’s own field,
Fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,
Unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we
Whole-some grain and pure may be.**

**For the Lord, our God, shall come
And shall take His harvest home,
From His field shall in that day
All offenses purge away,
Give His angels charge at last
In the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store
In His garner evermore.**

**Even so, Lord, quickly come
To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified,
In Thy garner to abide:
Come with all Thine angels, come
Raise the glorious harvest home.**

SENDING

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 3.
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