

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
Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:45am

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 14, 2024

AS WE GATHER

We are often reminded that things in this life don't last. This includes everything from material things and earthly goods to health and well-being; also, relationships we treasure, and ultimately mortality, which leads to death. Yet just as things in this life are temporary, with joy we are pointed frequently to what is everlasting. Adopted as God's own children, we are given an eternal inheritance through the work of Jesus Christ. Amid the temporary things of a broken and sinful world, we keep our focus on Christ and the eternal blessings assured "to the praise of His glorious grace" (Ephesians 1:6).



OPENING HYMN No. 525 "Crown Him with Many Crowns" Sts. 1–3:

**Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity.**

**Crown Him the virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.**

**Crown Him the Lord of love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their burning eyes
At mysteries so bright.**

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION *Psalm 124:8; 130:3–4; Luke 18:13*

P: Our help is in the name of the LORD,
C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: If You, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
C: **Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE (Please rise for the sharing of the peace.)

PSALM RESPONSE *Psalm 85:1–7*

P: LORD, You were favorable to Your land; You restored the fortunes of Jacob.
C: **You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered all their sin.**

P: You withdrew all Your wrath; You turned from Your hot anger.
C: **Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away Your indignation toward us!**

P: Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?
C: **Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?**

P: Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and give us Your salvation.

PRAISE HYMN No. 525 "Crown Him with Many Crowns" St. 4

**Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

PSALM RESPONSE *Psalm 85:8–13*

P: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

C: **Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, that glory may dwell in our land.**

P: Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

C: **Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

P: Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

C: **Righteousness will go before Him and make His footsteps a way.**

PRAISE HYMN No. 525 “Crown Him with Many Crowns” St. 5

**Crown Him the Lord of heav’n,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv’n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is king of all.**

INTROIT *Psalm 143:1–2, 8a; antiphon: v. 11*

C: **For Your name’s sake, O LORD, preserve my life! In Your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!**

P: Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!
Enter not into judgment with Your servant,
for no one living is righteous before You.
Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love,
for in You I trust.

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
For Your name’s sake, O LORD, preserve my life! In Your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

O Lord, You gave Your prophets strength to resist the temptations of the devil and courage to proclaim repentance. Give us pure hearts and minds to follow Your Son faithfully even into suffering and death; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Amos 7:7–15* (Amos's vision and prophecy to the people)

This is what he showed me: behold, the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "Behold, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass by them; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, "'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'" And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there, but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, "I was no prophet, nor a prophet's son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. But the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *Romans 11:33, 36*

P: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

C: **How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!**

P: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

C: **To Him be glory forever. Amen.**

EPISTLE *Ephesians 1:3–14* (Spiritual blessings in Christ)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the

praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Matthew 5:10*

P: Alleluia. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

C: **for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 6:14–29 (The death of John the Baptist) (Please rise for the reading.)*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

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

(The Gospel is read.)

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him." But others said, "He is Elijah." And others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." And she went out and said to her mother, "For what should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.** *(Please be seated.)*

SERMON SONG: "As the Deer," Martin Nystrom (Video)

**As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after you
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship you. Refrain**

**Refrain: You alone are my strength, my shield
To you alone will my spirit yield
You alone are my hearts desire
And I long to worship you**

Repeat all

SERMON "How Satisfied Are You with Your Life?" Ephesians 1:3-7 Pastor Perry Schefelker

CREED Apostle's Creed (*We rise to profess our faith in God.*)

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 (*Please be seated after the Creed.*)

OFFERING "Here I am, Lord," Daniel Schutte (Video) (*Please be seated for the offering.*)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

People: 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.

BENEDICTION

P: May the Lord go before you to prepare your way, behind you to encourage you, above you to watch over you, below you to be your firm foundation, beside you to befriend you, and within you to give you His peace.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN No. 917 “Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise” (Please *rise.*)

**Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.**

**Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.**

**Grant us Thy peace, Lord through the coming night;
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.**

**Grant us Thy peace through-out our earthly life,
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.**

SENDING

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

C: **Thanks be to God!**