

## Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

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Pastor Tony Troup (618-340-8375), Vacancy Pastor  
Pastor Perry Schefelker (618-322-7498), Vacancy Pastor  
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist  
Worship –9:30 am

### THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 7, 2025

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### HYMN No 688 “Come, Follow Me,’ the Savior Spake”

"Come, follow me," the Savior spake,  
"All in my way abiding;  
Deny yourselves, the world forsake,  
Obey My call and guiding.  
O, bear the cross, whate'er betide,  
Take My example for your guide.

"I am the light; I light the way,  
A godly life displaying;  
I bid you walk as in the day;  
I keep your feet from straying.  
I am the way, and well I show  
How you must sojourn here below.

"My heart abounds in lowliness;  
My soul with love is glowing;  
And gracious words My lips express,  
With meekness overflowing.  
My heart, My mind, My strength, My all  
To God I yield; on Him I call.

"I teach you how to shun and flee  
What harms your soul's salvation;  
Your heart from ev'ry guile to free,  
From sin and its temptation.  
I am the refuge of the soul  
And lead you to your heav'nly goal."

Then let us follow Christ, our Lord,  
And take the cross appointed  
And, firmly clinging to His Word,  
In suff'ring be undaunted.  
For those who bear the battle's strain  
The crown of heav'nly life obtain.



### INVOCATION

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

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Most holy and merciful Father,

**C: we confess to You, and to one another, and to the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

P: We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**C: Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

P: We have taken for granted Your grace and mercy and lived as though You did not matter and we mattered most of all.

**C: Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

P: We confess to You, O Lord, that we have done the evil Your Word prohibits and have not done the good You command.

**C: Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

P: We confess that we have hidden our sin from You and from one another and have not confessed honestly before You or to those whom we have hurt.

**C: We are truly sorry for the sins we have committed in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done that is wrong and by our failure to do what is right. Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

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.**

P: He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## SHARING GOD'S PEACE

## SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**     *Deuteronomy 30:15–20*     (I have set before you this day life and good, death and evil.)

<sup>15</sup> “See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. <sup>16</sup> If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>17</sup> But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup> I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, <sup>20</sup> loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *Philemon 1–21* (Paul’s letter commending the slave Onesimus back to his master, not only as a slave but as a brother in the Lord.)

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To Philemon our beloved fellow worker <sup>2</sup> and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, <sup>6</sup> and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. <sup>7</sup> For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

<sup>8</sup> Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, <sup>9</sup> yet for love’s sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— <sup>10</sup> I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup> (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) <sup>12</sup> I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. <sup>13</sup> I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup> but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. <sup>15</sup> For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup> no longer as a bondservant<sup>[a]</sup> but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. <sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

<sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. <sup>22</sup> At the same time, prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that through your prayers I will be graciously given to you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE** *Galatians 6:14*

P: Alleluia. Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
C: **by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** (Jesus speaks of the cost of discipleship and calls on those who would follow Him to deny themselves and take up the cross.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.  
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

<sup>25</sup> Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

<sup>34</sup> “Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? <sup>35</sup> It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY NO 851** “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us”

Lord of glory, You have bought us With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice;  
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand  
To the unthankful and the evil With Your own unsparing hand.

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Gladly, freely of Your own.  
With the sunshine of Your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by You, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed “Tis to give than to receive.

Wondrous honor You have given To our humblest charity  
In Your own mysterious sentence, “You have done it all to Me.”  
Can it be, O gracious Master, That You deign for alms to sue,  
Saying by Your poor and needy, “Give as I have giv’n to you”?

Lord of glory, You have bought us With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust You boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on You;  
But, oh, best of all Your graces, With Your love our love renew.

**SERMON** “Mushy Middle” Luke 14:25–35 Pastor David Pelsue

## **CREED**      *Nicene Creed*

**People:**            **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 for the whole people of God in Christ and for all people according to their needs.

That we walk with Christ the heavenly way and follow Him where He has led, that by His obedient life, His life-giving death, and His victorious resurrection we receive the crown of everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord:

**C:**      **Lord, have mercy.**

**P:**      That we be wise unto salvation, counting the cost of following Jesus, and by His grace and favor be sustained upon the path of life against all temptations and doubt, let us pray to the Lord:

**C:**      **Lord, have mercy.**

**P:**      That all the nations and their leaders work for peace, that the elected and appointed leaders of our own land act with integrity in the protection of our liberty and in the pursuit of justice, let us pray to the Lord:

**C:**      **Lord, have mercy.**

**P:**      That the Lord bless the proclamation of His Word here and in every place and that pastors serve us faithfully in Christ's name, distributing to us the gifts of His grace in the Holy Sacraments, let us pray to the Lord:

**C:**      **Lord, have mercy.**

**P:**      That all those afflicted in body or mind find healing and relief and those near death and the grieving find comfort, [*especially . . .*], and for all whom we name in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord:

**C:**      **Lord, have mercy.**

**P:**      That we learn gratitude for the manifold and rich gifts which God supplies every day and that we learn generosity to share with those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

**C:**      **Lord, have mercy.**

P: That we receive in repentance and with faith the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given to us in this Holy Communion and that we manifest the unity of heart and mind in all the doctrines taught us by His Word, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: That we be kept holy and blameless until the day of Christ's coming and be received by the mercy of God into the place of everlasting light and life in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

*Silence for meditation.*

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **PREFACE** 2 Timothy 4:22

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

## **PROPER PREFACE**

P: 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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 page 161, sung by the congregation)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power 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.**

## **✠ SACRAMENT ✠**

**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 ✠ 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 ✠ 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*

**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.**

**PAX DOMINI**

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

**C: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI** (*LSB page 163, sung by the congregation*)

**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

No. 685 "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,  
Through a world that would deceive us And to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,  
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.  
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where You guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus And with patience bear our cross.  
Joy will follow all our sadness; Where He is, there is no loss.  
Though today we sow no laughter. We shall reap celestial joy;  
All discomforts that annoy Shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
Jesus, here I share your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.

Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death He conquered death,  
He will free us from destruction, Give to us immortal breath.  
Let us mortify all passion That would lead us into sin;  
And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heave..  
Jesus, here with You I die, There to live with You on high.

Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead  
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, You are now our head,  
We are Your own living members; Where You live, there we shall be  
In Your presence constantly, Living there with You forever.  
Jesus, let me faithful be, Life eternal grant to me.

No. 707 "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His statutes still!  
Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!

Order my footsteps by Thy Word And make my heart sincere;  
Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep;  
And should I e'er forget Thy way, Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.

Make me to walk in Thy commands, 'Tis a delightful road;  
Nor let my head or heart or hands Offend against my God.

## **POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**

*(LSB page 164, sung by the congregation)*

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone 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. Alleluia, alleluia.



## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;  
C: **and His mercy endures forever.**

P: Let us pray.

O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another. Enable us to resist all evil and to live a godly life. Help us to follow the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to walk in His steps until we shall possess the kingdom that has been prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

## BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

## 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 NO 918 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

**Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,  
Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;  
Hold me with Thy pow’rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
Feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer,  
Be Thou still my strength and shield;  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell’s destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan’s side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.**

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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

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