Our Savior Lutheran Church August 20, 2023 Page 1 14344 Jamison Way, (941) 249-5108



WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, *please place your cell phones on* **mute** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

IN OUR PRAYERS: Please use a prayer request card (located on table by entrance) if you have a specific prayer request this morning. It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

THE MEANING OF THE TWO PICTURES IN THE BULLETIN: The two pictures at the top of the bulletin are the church's logo and the LCMC logo. The church's logo is the descent of the Holy Spirit into 'Our Savior' at the time of His Baptism.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bible study every Wednesday at 10 a.m. Please come! ALL welcome!

MUSIC CELEBRATION: We will be celebrating our quarterly music service on Sunday, September 2nd. Next Sunday, I will publish a page where you can make three suggestions for hymns and I will select as many as possible for our music service the next week. There is no official sermon, but I will be talking about the messages in the hymns themselves as our Gospel message.

Our Servers Today:

Reader: George Stern Communion: Pr. Steve, Pr. Sarah, Fran Thibideau Music Minister: George Stern *Offering: Jeff Cisco, David Colburn Greeter: Jeff Cisco*

SERVICE OF THE WORD: TWELTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME: Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements

Nearer My God to Thee, Pr. Steve and George Stern, Alto Saxophones

Pastor: We gather in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. People: **AMEN**

CONFESSIONAL PRAYER - congregational responses in **BOLD**

Pastor: Lord, we approach Your altar with love for You and our appreciation for the price You paid for us on the cross. We realize the difficulties that we face, and we confess the poor job we have done with our response to Your sacrifice. For that, Dear Lord, we make our confession to You this day.

1 John 1:8-9

Most merciful God, I have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by the things I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. In the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, forgive me, renew me and lead me so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Holy Name AMEN.

ABSOLUTION <u>Pastor</u>: As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus on His cross, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, and by the authority of Jesus Christ, forgive you all your sins in the

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name of the, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Alleluia** and Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMNS: R 13 – COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING R 9 – WORTHY OF WORSHIP

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray:

O Almighty and most merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep us, we pray, from all things that may hurt us that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish whatever things you want done; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: ISAIAH 56; 1-8 NKJV

Salvation for the Gentiles

Thus says the LORD:

"Keep justice, and do righteousness, For My salvation *is* about to come, And My righteousness to be revealed. Blessed *is* the man *who* does this, And the son of man *who* lays hold on it; Who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And keeps his hand from doing any evil."

Do not let the son of the foreigner, who has joined himself to the LORD Speak, saying, "The LORD has utterly separated me from His people"; Nor let the eunuch say, "Here I am, a dry tree." For thus says the LORD: "To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant, Even to them I will give in My house And within My walls a place and a name Better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name That shall not be cut off. "Also the sons of the foreigner Who join themselves to the LORD, to serve Him, And to love the name of the LORD, to be His servants— Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant— Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices *Will be* accepted on My altar;

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For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations." The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says,"Yet I will gather to him *Others* besides those who are gathered to him."

PSALM: Psalm 67 - NKJV An Invocation and a Doxology

To the Chief Musician. On stringed instruments. A Psalm. A Song.

God be merciful to us and bless us, *And* cause His face to shine upon us, That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.

Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You. Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy!

For You shall judge the people righteously, And govern the nations on earth. **Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You**.

Then the earth shall yield her increase; God, our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us, And all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.

Glory be to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 11: 1-32 ESV

The Remnant of Israel

I ask then: Did God reject His people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. God did not reject His people, whom He foreknew. Don't you know what Scripture says in the passage about Elijah—how he appealed to God against Israel: "Lord, they have killed your prophets and torn down your altars; I am the only one left, and they are trying to kill me" And what was God's answer to him?

"I have reserved for Myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal." So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

What then? What the people of Israel sought so earnestly they did not obtain. The elect among them did, but the others were hardened, as it is written: "God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that could not see and ears that could not hear,to this very day." And David says: "May their table become a snare and a trap,a stumbling block and a retribution for them. May their eyes be darkened so they cannot see, and their backs be bent forever."

Ingrafted Branches

Again I ask: Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious. But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their full inclusion bring! I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the

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Gentiles, I take pride in my ministry in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them.

For if their rejection brought reconciliation to the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? If the part of the dough offered as first-fruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches.

If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, do not consider yourself to be superior to those other branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you. You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in." Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but tremble. For if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you either.

Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in His kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off. And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. After all, if you were cut out of an olive tree that is wild by nature, and contrary to nature were grafted into a cultivated olive tree, how much more readily will these, the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree!All Israel Will Be Saved

I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, and in this way all Israel will be saved. As it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; He will turn godlessness away from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins." As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies for your sake; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs,

for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that He may have mercy on them all.

THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 15:21-28 – ESV (please rise)

A Gentile Shows Her Faith

Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord Son of David! My daughter is severely

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demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us."

But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw *it* to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great *is* your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

GOSPEL HYMN: R 480 – ALL FOR JESUS! ALL FOR JESUS! MUSIC FOR FOR MEDITATION:

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise - Dean Carson

SERMON: "Salvation for the Gentiles. What does this mean?" Pr. Steve Dygert - STS Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Ephesians 1:2*

C: Amen

SERMON HYMN: R 52 – AS THE DEER

OFFERING: Psalm 51

Create in me, a clean heart, Oh Lord And renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not, away from thy presence And take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me, the joy of thy salvation, And uphold me in thy free Spirit. Amen

Rite of Friendship:

P. The Peace of the Lord Be With You Always.

C. And Also With You.

P. We now have the opportunity to share back with the Lord a little of the bounty He has shared with us.

As the offering is brought forward, we will sing the Doxology.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all peoples here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Doxology, written in England for Protestant Churches in 1674.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Merciful Father,

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C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us-our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PRAYERS: Let us Pray:

(Prayer Response) Lord in your Mercy: **Hear our prayer**

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and forever. Amen

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE:

WORDS OF INSTITUTION: Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1st Corinthians 11:23-25

On the night He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ, took bread, and after giving thanks, He broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said; "Take and eat; this is My body, given for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same manner, after supper He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to the them saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the new testament in My blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of of Me."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. 1st Corinthians 11:26

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again! THE DISTRIBUTION, THE COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: R 414 – 'TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS (verses 1,2, 4) **THE AARONIC BENEDICTION: Numbers 6: 24-26** LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH:

Let there be peace on earth	Let this be the moment now
And let it begin with me	With every step I take
Let there be peace on earth	Let this be my solemn vow
The peace that was meant to be	To take each moment
With God as our father	And live each moment
Brothers all are we	In peace eternally
Let me walk with my brother	Let there be peace on earth
In perfect harmony	And let it begin with me!!

THE DISMISSAL P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord! C. Thanks be to God!!