



**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost - September 24, 2023
9:00 a.m. Worship Service**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

Call to Worship (from Psalm 10)

A: Why, O LORD, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble? In arrogance the wicked persecute the poor— let them be caught in the schemes they have devised.

C: Rise up, O LORD; O God, lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed. Why do the wicked renounce God, and say in their hearts, “You will not call us to account”?

A: But you do see! Indeed you note trouble and grief, that you may take it into your hands; the helpless commit themselves to you; you have been the helper of the orphan.

C: O LORD, you will hear the desire of the meek; you will strengthen their heart, you will incline your ear to do justice for the orphan and the oppressed, so that those from earth may strike terror no more.

Gathering Hymn – Gather Us In – ELW #532 vs 1-3

Invocation

L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross for us, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

L: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence for reflection.

L: Steadfast and merciful God,

**All: you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.**

We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

**For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation,
forgive us.**

For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

L: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In + Christ Jesus, we are already and always forgiven.

C: Amen.

Greeting

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Hymn of Praise – Borning Cry – ELW #732

Prayer of the Day

A: Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants.

C: Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son,

A: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Word

First Reading: Jonah 3:10-4:11

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry.

²He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of

Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 142

¹With my voice I cry to the LORD; with my voice I make supplication to the LORD.

²**I pour out my complaint before him; I tell my trouble before him.**

³**When my spirit is faint, you know my way. In the path where I walk they have hidden a trap for me.**

⁴Look on my right hand and see— there is no one who takes notice of me; no refuge remains to me; no one cares for me.

⁵**I cry to you, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."**

⁶Give heed to my cry, for I am brought very low. Save me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me.

⁷**Bring me out of prison, so that I may give thanks to your name. The righteous will surround me, for you will deal bountifully with me.**

Second Reading: Exodus 16:2-15

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into

this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.”⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.”⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt,⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?”⁸ And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’”¹⁰ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.¹¹ The Lord spoke to Moses and said,¹² “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”¹³ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.¹⁴ When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground.¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.² After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others

standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?' ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Message – Tim Leitner, SAM

<https://youtu.be/Ff5bzqs2m6c?si=VFyrPE0NnErDwXrp>

Hymn of the Day – Lord God, with Praise We Come - ELW #730

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 to the dead,
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 catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

L: Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

A: God who is gracious and merciful, teach your church to invite and welcome all. Lead us to be grateful for the blessing of community. Challenge your church to choose equity and compassion over judgement. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God who sends the wind and the sun, you know every creature and plant by name. Help us remember that even the humblest parts of creation are precious to you. Show us how best to care for the earth and its creatures. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God who is ready to relent from punishing, impart your compassionate wisdom to legislators, judges, members of the military and law enforcement. Give them courage to serve their communities in times of uncertainty, stress, and exhaustion. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God who saves, direct your people who are tempted by evil ways. Protect your children from calamity and disaster. Strengthen all who are incarcerated. Encourage all who are in despair or pain of any kind. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God who us slow to anger, may we boast about the goodness of Jesus with the confidence of Paul in prison. Inspire us to find

abundance in whatever vocation we are called to in the world and in service to our congregation. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God who abounds in steadfast love, we give thanks for the saints called to the kingdom of heaven. United with them in spirit, hold us firm as we labor in this life and look to the life to come. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Heavenly Father, remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these prayers and the prayers of our hearts, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Offering

Offertory Hymn – Father, I Adore You - W&P #37

Offertory Prayer

A: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.

C: We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.

A: Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth, as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Communion Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

L: Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.

C: Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied.

A: In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

Benediction

L: The God of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in us, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please stand as you are able for the sending hymn)

Sending Hymn – The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve – ELW #551

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. God is at work in us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude