Growing in the Spirit

September 3, 2023

Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church
About Us

Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has been firmly planted in the Phillips Community since 1912. A Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, we celebrate our diversity of age, race, gender identities, sexual orientations, culture and citizenship.

Welcome, Visitors!

Welcome to all visitors and guests. If you live here, we hope you’ll consider joining. If you are here for a short time, we hope you’ll feel at home. Please pick up a copy of our newsletter, *The Sentinel*, from the entry table.

Need hearing assistance or larger print? Please ask an usher.

Children are welcome to participate fully in worship. We feel strongly that children’s spirituality develops through experience. In our community, children lead as ushers, musicians, readers and communion servers. We offer kid’s worship folders. We expect that children will behave as children – giggles, wiggles, and all. Kids (and their parents) sometimes need a break. In our reading corner in the Hospitality Center, we offer books, a few toys and more. Kids and parents are invited to go in and out of the sanctuary as needed.

Safe Church. For the safety of all our children, we ask that children be attended at all times. Please accompany your child to the bathroom and reading corner. Copies of our Safe Church Policy are available from the church office.

Transportation and Parking

Parking. Handicap access is available in the small lot at the back of the church, accessed from the alley. Sunday morning, we may use the Hope Academy lot (across Chicago Ave). Please note street parking is limited to residents only during certain hours.

Buses. The D line runs every 10 minutes and stops right at 24th. The 5 bus line still does run on Chicago Ave, but it is about every hour, and does stop at the new bus shelters, along with other intersections. For more options, please check our website: oursavioursmpls.org, call Metro Transit at 612-373-3333 or visit metrotransit.org.
Time after Pentecost

When Peter doesn’t grasp Jesus’ words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering Music

Welcome

*Confession and Forgiveness

*Opening Hymn “Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth” #735

*Greeting

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day
First Reading

A reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans.

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;
10 love one another with mutual affection;
outdo one another in showing honor.
11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.
12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.
16 Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty,
but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.
17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought
for what is noble in the sight of all.
18 If it is possible, so far as it depends on you,
live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves,
but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written,
“Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the LORD.”
20 No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them;
if they are thirsty, give them something to drink;
for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.”
21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.
*Gospel Acclamation

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e-ter-na-l life. Al-le-lu-ia.

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.
Glory to you, O God.

*Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:21-28

21 From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah.] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
22 And Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.”
23 But Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.
25 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.
26 For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

27 “For the Son-of-Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Abba, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. 28 Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son-of-Man coming in his dominion.”
This is the Good News.
_Praise to you, O Christ._

_Sermon_

*_Hymn of the Day*   "*Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*"  #808

*_Prayers of the People*

(Each petition will conclude with, “God, in your mercy,” and the congregation responds, “hear our prayer.”)

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**Meal**

_God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ._

*_Peace*

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*(The people greet each other:  *Peace be with you.* )*

**Gathering our Gifts**

_All present, even those who contribute through automatic payments, are invited to lay hands upon the collection plate symbolizing their contributions. Those worshipping online may contribute on our website: *http://oursavioursmpls.org.*_
*Offertory  “Come, Bring Them to the Table”

Come, bring them to the table—bring the gifts of bread and wine, the hopes and dreams of all the people, the offering of our lives, the offering of our lives.

*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.
*Eucharistic Proclamation and Prayer

*Lord’s Prayer  adapted by Bret Hesla

Gracious Spirit, who loves us like a mother,  
whose realm is blooming among us now. And within.  
We pray that your compassion guide us in every action.  
Give us what we need for each day,  
and help us to be satisfied with the miracle of that alone.  
Forgiver, whose embrace brings us to wholeness without our asking,  
may we reconcile ourselves to one another in humility.  
And may we cancel the crushing debts that imprison our neighbors  
so that communities of joy and health may flourish.  
May we neither profit from nor ignore evil,  
but ever work to thwart it with nonviolence  
as we co-create the realm of peace in this world, now and each day.  
Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Distribution

All are welcome at Christ’s table. We will serve from the front of each section. Ushers will guide you. After you have received bread, or a gluten free wafer, hold out your glass to the server and indicate whether you would like wine (the dark liquid), or grape juice (the light liquid in the second pitcher which has a shiny band attached to it). You are invited to eat and drink and then deposit your compostable cup with a server. Those who do not commune may indicate a preference for a blessing.

“Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup”  #492

“Will You Come and Follow Me”  #798
“This Is Christ’s Body”

This is Christ’s bod-y, bro-ken and blest. Feed us with mer-cy and love. We are Christ’s bod-y, bro-ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

Text: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960
Music: BROKEN AND BLESSED, Anne Krentz Organ
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*Blessing

*Post Communion Canticle

You’ve nour-ish ed us well. You’ve taught us to be all that you long for us to be. Al ways to live, nev-er to thirst,

nev-er to hun-gry.

Al-ways to live, al-ways to live.
Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

*Blessing

*Sending Song  “Mungu awabariki/May God Bless Us” ACS 986

Sing in both Swahili and English

Mungu awabariki, Mungu awabariki, Mungu awabariki milele.

May God bless us and keep us, may God bless us and keep us;
may God bless us and keep us, evermore.

*Dismissal

Go in peace. Grow in love.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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**Today’s Worship**

Ministers: You!
Presiding/Preaching: Martha Schwehn Bardwell
Prayers: Joel Abrahamson
Reader: Ralph Baumgartner
Accompanist: Catherine Preus
Cantors: Kathleen Olsen, Mary Preus
Livestream: Jim Johnson

**This week at OSLC:**

Property workday, Saturday, Sept 9 from 9am to noon.


**Information about Our Saviour’s can be found on our [website](#) and on our [Facebook page](#).**

**If you’re interested in becoming a member of Our Saviour’s, please reach out to Pastor Martha. We call this process: Living Questions**

**Mission of the month is the English Learning Center.**
Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church is a dynamic community, centered in Christ, called, nurtured and sent – to celebrate, serve and do justice.

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