

# Ninth Sunday After Pentecost



July 26th, 2026  
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

## About Us

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has been firmly planted in the Phillips Community since 1912. Our Saviour's is a dynamic community, centered in Christ, called, nurtured and sent - to celebrate, serve and do justice.

## You Are Welcome Here!

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church celebrates the beauty of human diversity, knowing God creates every person in God's image. We welcome you in the fullness of who you are: at every age, with every ability and challenge; in every race, ethnicity, and citizenship; in neurodiversity and the many ways our minds work; and in every kind of relationship and family. We welcome people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. We affirm that all people are beloved by God and worthy of dignity, belonging, care, and full participation. Mindful of the harm of exclusion, we commit ourselves to the ongoing work of racial equity, justice, and service, growing in our practice of welcome as we journey together toward God's beloved community.

**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.

**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 expect that children will behave as children – giggles, wiggles, and all. Kids and their parents are invited to go in and out of the sanctuary as needed.

**Safe Church.** For the safety of all 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** - Parking is available in the parking lot behind church. There is street parking as well as in the Hope Academy Parking ramp at 24th St and Park Ave. The arms are up on Sunday mornings until 2pm. There are handicap parking spots available in the front and back of the church.

**Bus** - The D line runs every 10 minutes on Chicago Ave. For more options, visit [metrotransit.org](http://metrotransit.org).

## Mission Of The Month: Casa Esperanza (Hope House)

**Casa Esperanza** is a ministry of the Salvadoran Lutheran Church that provides basic care to people experiencing homelessness in San Salvador. For more than 25 years, this Ministry of Love & Solidarity has been a welcoming place where men, women, and families can gather, share a hot meal, shower and wash their clothing, receive basic first aid, and participate in substance abuse recovery programs. This coming August, a delegation that includes members of OSLC will visit Casa Esperanza and deliver the funds we have raised to support this vital ministry.



# Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

*As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!*

## Gathering

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

### Gathering Music

#### \*Opening Hymn

*Come, Let Us Worship God*

*Ray Makeever*

1. (Come let us worship God.) **Come, let us worship God.** (2x)  
(Welcome ev'ryone.) **Welcome ev'ryone.**  
(To the love of God.) **To the love of God.**
2. (Rest for the weary.) **Rest for the weary.** (2x)
3. (Food for the hungry.) **Food for the hungry.** (2x)
4. (Hope for the children.) **Hope for the children.** (2x)

#### \*Welcome

### Children's Sermon

#### \*Baptism

*Please see the bulletin insert as we gather facing the baptismal font.*

We sing: Love is flowing.... from the fountain of life.  
Peace is pouring...  
Mercy streaming...

#### \*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

# Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## First Reading

**Romans 8:26-39**

<sup>26</sup> The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup> And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

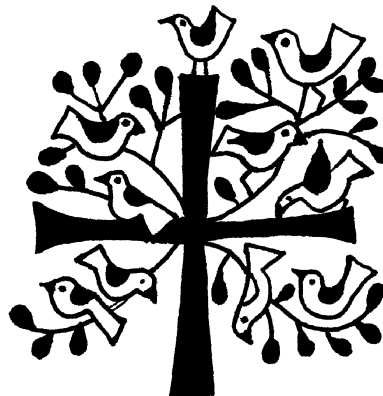
<sup>28</sup> We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those whom God foreknew God also predestined to be conformed to the image of the Son of God, in order that the Son might be the firstborn within a large family. <sup>30</sup> And those whom God predestined God also called; and those whom God called God also justified; and those whom God justified God also glorified.

<sup>31</sup> What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup> The very Son of God was not withheld, but was given up for all of us; will God not along with the Son also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup> Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

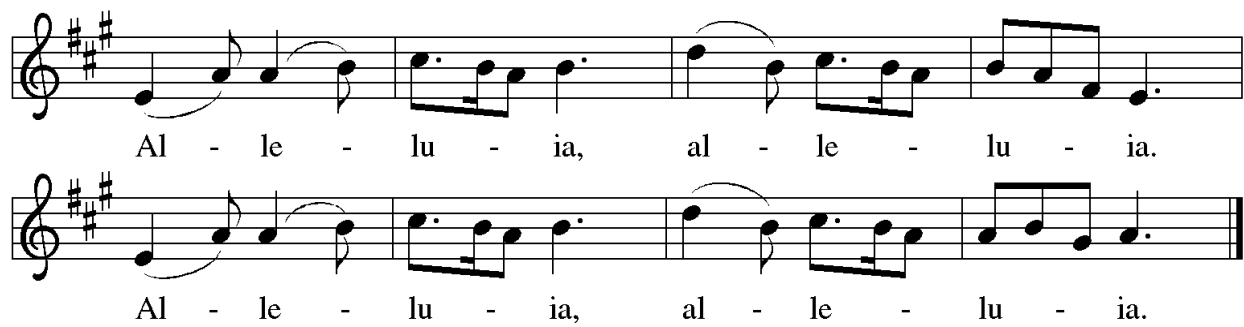
<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the one who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

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



## \*Gospel Acclamation

## *Celtic Alleluia*



## \*Gospel

## Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The holy gospel according to Matthew the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O God.**

<sup>31</sup> [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The dominion of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in a field;<sup>32</sup> it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

<sup>33</sup> Jesus told them another parable: “The dominion of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

<sup>44</sup> “The dominion of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup> “Again, the dominion of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup> on finding one pearl of great value, they went and sold all that they had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup> “Again, the dominion of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup> when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup> So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup> and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup> “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” <sup>52</sup> And Jesus said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the dominion of heaven is like a householder who brings out of the household treasure what is new and what is old.”

This is the Good News. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

*There is space for sermon notes either on the insert page or on the table by the font.*

## \*Hymn of the Day

## *Little by Little*

*Bret Hesla*



### *Verses (melody is the same as the Refrain):*

1. Grow-ing in cracks and crev-i-ces (3x), we are ev-ery-where.
2. Root-ed in the Wa-ter of Mer-cy (3x), we will sure-ly flower.
3. Work-ing with all of each oth-er (3x), we are not a-lone.
4. Hab-its of peace and jus-tice (3x): tools to change the world.

## \*Prayers of the People

*Each petition ends: God of Grace, hear our prayer.*

# Meal

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## \*Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also 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. If you are interested in giving online to Our Saviour's use this QR Code.*

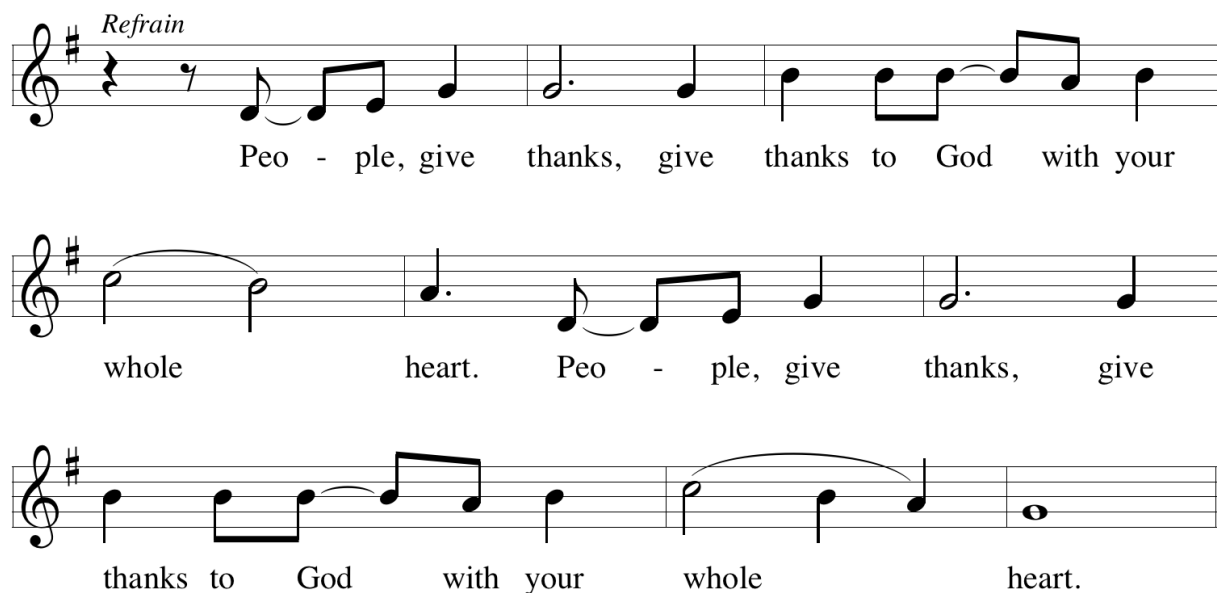


## \*Offertory

## *People Give Thanks*

**JBS 28**

*Refrain*



Peo - ple, give thanks, give thanks to God with your  
whole heart. Peo - ple, give thanks, give  
thanks to God with your whole heart.

## \*Offertory Prayer

### \*The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the Living God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### \*Eucharistic Prayer

*As part of the eucharistic prayer we confess the great mystery of faith to the tune of the Civil Rights Movement anthem, "We Shall Overcome." We learned this from Trinity Lutheran in Manhattan:*

**Jesus Christ has died, Jesus Christ is risen,**

**Jesus Christ will come again.**

**Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe**

**Jesus Christ will come again.**

### \*The Prayer of Jesus

**Our Mother, our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**your kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*\*As part of our commitment to using inclusive and expansive language for God, this season we are modifying the word 'kingdom' which connotes both maleness and a form of government unfamiliar to most of us. Instead, we will use 'kin-dom' which captures the way Jesus radically redefines family and invites everyone into a loving relationship with God and neighbor. Whether saying 'kin-dom' or 'kingdom,' we proclaim the subversive reign of God's love and justice.*

## Healing Prayer at the Font

*During communion distribution, you are invited to the font for individual prayers.*

## Songs During Communion

***Come to the Table***

***ELW481***

***Neither Death nor Life***

***ELW 622***

***Way Maker***

***Sinach***

Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness

My God, that is who You are

Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness

My God, that is who You are

**\*Blessing**

## Sending

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

## Sending & Blessing for Lutheran Volunteer Corps members

**\*Benediction**

*This is a benediction song that we learned at Luther Crest Bible Camp this summer.*

As you go on your way may Christ go with you

May Christ go before you to show you the way

May Christ go behind you to encourage you

Beside you to befriend you, above you to watch over

Within you to give you peace.

Go in peace to love and serve.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

*All are invited to the Narthex for cake to celebrate Hugo's baptism and community time.*

# Today's Worship

|                  |                                                                                                |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ministers:       | You!                                                                                           |
| Presiding:       | Esther Sianipar                                                                                |
| Preaching:       | Martha Schwehn Bardwell                                                                        |
| Reader:          | Will and Sam Bardwell                                                                          |
| Prayers:         | Jonah Sitorus                                                                                  |
| Special Music:   | Clarinet Quartet: Naomi Bardwell,<br>Thomas Goodell, Nancy Nygaard<br>Johnson, & Lucy Selander |
| Musicians:       | Alyssa Schwitzer & Kent Goodroad                                                               |
| ASL Interpreter: | Micah Draeger                                                                                  |
| Sound:           | Mike Libby                                                                                     |
| Livestream:      | Jakob Johnson                                                                                  |
| Window Blinds:   | Remi Hanson                                                                                    |

## This week at OSLC:

**Wednesday, July 29**

8:30-9:30AM DABS

10:15AM Bible Study (CR/Zoom)

**Saturday, August 1**

9:00-11AM Bread Baking (K)

# SERMON NOTES

## Acknowledgments

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# OUR SAVIOUR'S Lutheran Church

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centered in Christ, called, nurtured and sent –  
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[www.oursavioursmpls.org](http://www.oursavioursmpls.org)  
[www.facebook.com/Our.Saviours.Lutheran.Church.Mpls](https://www.facebook.com/Our.Saviours.Lutheran.Church.Mpls)

## Our Saviour's Staff

|                                               |                                                                                                              |                      |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
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| <b>Pastor</b>                                 | <b>Esther K. Sianipar</b><br><a href="mailto:esther@oursavioursmpls.org">esther@oursavioursmpls.org</a>      | (612) 871-2967 opt 2 |
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|                                               | <b>Alyssa Schwitzer</b><br><a href="mailto:alyssa@oursavioursmpls.org">alyssa@oursavioursmpls.org</a>        | (612) 871-2967 opt 4 |
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| <b>OSCS Executive<br/>Director</b>            | <b>Mike Huffman</b><br><a href="mailto:mike@oscs-mn.org">mike@oscs-mn.org</a>                                | (612) 871-5900 opt 1 |