



Our Saviour Lutheran Church

"Making disciples and growing in grace"



Pastor: **Rev. Christopher R. Heinold** | Ministers: **The Baptized People of God**

212 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, Tennessee 37604

Phone: (423) 282-2313 | Website: www.oslc.church

18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 27, 2026

PRELUDE MUSIC

The Acolyte(s) and Pastor enter into the Sanctuary as the music begins.



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God.

In the Old Testament reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. In the New Testament Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own.

Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup of wine, we offer our lives for the sake of a needy world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

see page 14 & 15

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the Pastor begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity,

Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit,

one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

A brief silence is kept for personal reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
both in the world and in our own hearts.
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this gift of grace. Amen

GATHERING HYMN

Blessed Be Your Name

Redman

- Verse 1 **Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name**
- Verse 2 **Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name**
- Pre-Chorus **Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say**
- Chorus *Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name*
- Verse 3 **Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name**
- Verse 4 **Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name**

Pre-Chorus **Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say** *Chorus*

Bridge **You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say Lord blessed be Your name** *Chorus*

Words and Music by Beth Redman, Matt Redman. CCLI Song #3798438. © 2002 Thankyou Music. CCLI License #2869281

GREETING

The grace of our Lord 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

Let us pray.

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us
your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and
guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

(The congregation is now seated)



CHILDREN'S SERMON



WORD

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

THE FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"?

³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 25:1-9

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph¹ over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

THE SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,
⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(The congregation stands to welcome the gospel.)

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:23-32

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”



P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



SERMON

Pastor Chris Heinold

HYMN OF THE DAY

Give Me Jesus

ELW # 770

- In the morning when I rise,
in the morning when I rise,
in the morning when I rise,
give me Jesus.**

*Refrain Give me Jesus,
give me Jesus.
You may have all the rest,
give me Jesus.*

2. **Dark midnight was my cry,
dark midnight was my cry,
dark midnight was my cry,
give me Jesus. Refrain**

4. **Oh, when I come to die,
oh, when I come to die,
oh, when I come to die,
give me Jesus. Refrain**

5. **And when I want to sing,
and when I want to sing,
and when I want to sing,
give me Jesus. Refrain**

Text: African American spiritual. One License # A-739334



WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS

Following the hymn of the day, the new members and the ministers gather at the baptismal font or at another convenient place in front of the congregation. The Senior Pastor addresses the assembly in these or similar words.

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, *Jim Wood* and *Candi Wood*, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation at Our Saviour Lutheran Church.

A representative of the congregation or the Senior Pastor may introduce each new member.

Jim & Candi join our congregation from Emmanuel Lutheran in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith using the words of 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.**

** Or, "he descended into hell," another
translation of this text in widespread use*

ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS

The Senior Pastor and the new members turn to face the altar.

The Senior Pastor addresses those being welcomed.

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Sisters and brothers in Christ,
do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism
among God's people in here at Our Saviour Lutheran Church?

Those being welcomed respond individually.

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The Senior Pastor addresses the congregation.

People of God,
do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?
We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

WELCOME

Those being welcomed turn to face the congregation.

A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.



Let us welcome *Jim* and *Candi* into this community of faith.
They are united with us in Jesus Christ as sisters and brothers.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

Certificates of membership may be given at this time.

The congregation may give thanks to God with a healthy round of applause.

The new members return to their places, and the service continues with the prayers of intercession.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



For the sick: *Susan Kirkland, Maggie Flint-Waldron, Mike Waldron, Josiah Flint, Dani Dewitt, Brian Patteson, Theresa McComb, Marjorie Gumm, Barbara Rupert, Dorla Brunke, Larry Seifert, Jean Loveday, Gene Whitson, Duane Williams, John Paul Neas, Scott & Cindy Gibson, Mary King, Barbara Diehl, and Curtis Van Hooser*

And for these family and friends: *Todd Headley, Donald Forsman, Joe Smelser, Emily Clark, Cindy Pennell, Volodymyr Hrynko, Iryna Hrinko, Matt Gillis, Betsy Craft, Glenn Christy, Raymond Leon II, Cody Moore, Stephanie Patteson, Melissa Brown, Jennifer Keegan, Skip Nipper, Nikki Miller, Ryan Nesseth, Randy Parrish, Carolyn Parish, Andy Wilhoit, Bob Edwards, Brian Beier, The Schrock Family, Luke Hawk, Julian Hawk, Juniper Hawk, and Kristy Epperson*

P: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we now offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

A: Center your church in humility as we strive to follow you. Help us listen to the cries of those who have been hurt by the church. Show all people your love and peace.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: You call us to care for your creation. Lead us into your promise of a better world through sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their call to use their positions for the sake of the common good. Give them the gift of humility.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling. Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need, especially those we lift up to you in the silence of our hearts...

(10s pause)

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: Change this congregation's heart when we say no to your call. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community. Thank you for our newest members, Jim and Candi Wood.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

A: our steadfast love holds all the saints who have finished their work and are at rest. As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. (2 Corinthians 13:11)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

THE OFFERING

*An offering is gathered in cheerfulness and gratitude
for all that God has given to us. (2 Corinthians 9:7)
The table is set as the offering is received.*

— Electronic Giving Option —

*Please consider an offering
that helps us continue doing
great ministry together.*

*For electronic giving, scan the
QR Code to get started!*



OFFERTORY MUSIC

All Who Are Thirsty

Verse 1 **All who are thirsty
All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep
(We sing)**

Chorus 1 *Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come (REPEAT)*

Verse 2 **All who are thirsty
All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep
(We sing)**

Chorus 1 *Come Lord Jesus come*
Come Lord Jesus come (REPEAT)

Chorus 2 *Holy Spirit come*
Holy Spirit come (REPEAT)

Ending **As deep cries out to deep we sing**
Come Lord Jesus Come

Words and Music by Brenton Brown, Glenn Robertson. CCLI Song #2489542.
© 1998 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire). CCLI License #2869281

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together the offering prayer:

God of creation, **you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.**
All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love
to our neighbors, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as you are able.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: *Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.*

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: *This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.*

Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to commune today at Our Saviour Lutheran Church. Holy Communion will be received at the altar rail. The ushers will guide you. At the rail, you will receive bread. The Communion Assistant will have individual cups. Wine and white grape juice are available. If you are unable to come forward, let an usher know and we will bring Communion to you. Gluten free wafers are available.



COMMUNION HYMN

You Lord Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

ACS # 954

1. You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd. You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
You, peacemaker and sword-bringer of the way you took and gave.
You, the everlasting instant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.
2. Clothed in light upon the mountain, stripped of might upon the cross,
shining in eternal glory, beggared by a soldier's toss,
you, the everlasting instant; you, who are both gift and cost.
3. You, who walk each day beside us, sit in power at God's side.
You, who preach a way that's narrow, have a love that reaches wide.
You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our pilgrim guide.
4. Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ!
Worthy your defeat and vict'ry; worthy still your peace and strife.
You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our death and life.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993. Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., All rights reserved. One License # A-739334

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in His grace. Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you have nourished us with your abundant life. By the power of your Holy Spirit, now send us from this table to serve the world. Make us living signs of your mercy, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**



SENDING

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

BENEDICTION

May the God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Jesus Christ. **Amen**

May the God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen**

May the God of all grace

✙ bless you now and forever. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN

You Are My All in All

Verse 1 **You are my strength when I am weak**
 You are the treasure that I seek
 You are my all in all
 Seeking You as a precious jew'l Lord to give up I'd be a fool
 You are my all in all

Chorus *Jesus Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name*
 Jesus Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name

Verse 2 **Taking my sin my cross my shame**
 Rising again I bless Your name
 You are my all in all
 When I fall down You pick me up when I am dry You fill my cup
 You are my all in all *Chorus*

CCLI Song # 825356 Dennis Jernigan © 1991 Shepherd's Heart Music, Inc. (Admin. by Praise Charts Publishing, Inc.)
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. CCLI License #2869281

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God. And weee will!**

POSTLUDE MUSIC

– CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS –



Welcome to Our Saviour Lutheran Church! We are happy that you came to worship today. If you came seeking the *Almighty*, you are in the right place.

If you came seeking *community in Christ*, you are in the right place.

If you came seeking *rest and worship of God most High*, then you came to the right place.
Thanks be to God that you are here today!

Children are welcome in this house of worship. Children are a gift from God. Encourage them to participate in worship. Continue the dialogue started here in your homes with your children. Help them understand that God loves them.

“All God’s Critters Got a Place in the Choir!” Next Sunday, **October 4th**, we are excited to hold a **Blessing of the Animals** in recognition of Saint Francis of Assisi. This is a short service held outdoors near the playground where you will have the opportunity to have your pet blessed by Pastor Chris. Please bring your animal, leashed or in a carrier, to the back parking lot. The **Blessing of the Animals** service begins at 4:00PM. Pastor Chris will have special certificates to commemorate the blessing of your animal.



Pastor Chris is starting a weekly Bible Study on Thursdays, and you’re invited! Starting this Thursday, October 1, join us at **10:30AM in the Fellowship Hall** for an in-depth study on **Galatians**. These are 1-hour Bible Studies. Each week, Pastor will begin the study hearing prayer requests and praying with participants. Then the class will study one chapter per week; there will be time for good discussion. So come, hang out with Pastor Chris and jump into one of Martin Luther’s favorite books, Galatians. There will be snacks, tea, and (of course) coffee! Even if you can’t make it every week, we would love to see you there!

WELCA – is beginning to collect monetary donations for their Christmas gift project. They “adopt” 2-3 homeless children from the school system, to give a bright Christmas to. The school gives us the names, wish lists, clothing sizes, etc. WELCA will purchase and wrap the gifts before Thanksgiving, and the school will pick up the gifts and deliver them in early December. If you would like to donate, write WELCA/Christmas on your check or offering envelope, or you may give your check to Cheryl Milliken (made out to WELCA). The deadline to donate for this is Nov.22nd

There will be a Noah’s Ark Party – on Saturday, October 17th, from 10:00AM – Noon. There will be crafts, games, experiments, story telling, food, and LOTS of fun! Contact Ricki Doty for more information.

OKTOBERFEST – We will have a German meal featuring brats, German potato salad, German chocolate cake, apple strudel, Spaetzle, and soft pretzels with cheese dip. This will be held on Saturday, October 10th, starting at 3:00PM. We will be collecting donations in support of a remodel and replacement of much needed playground equipment. We hope you will attend. There are fliers on the table in the narthex to let us know how many are attending. Please fill these out and put them in the offering plate.

Outreach is hosting a Trunk or Treat on October 24th, at 6:00PM. Pastor Chris will DJ, there will be hotdogs, chips, and drinks available in the Fellowship Hall. If you want to decorate your trunk and hand out candy, contact Teresa Sweet or the office. If you would like to donate individually wrapped candy for this or for the PDO Party on October 28th, that would also be very much appreciated.

Choir and Instrumentalists practice on Wednesdays at 4:30PM. If you want to take part, but this time doesn't work for you, contact Martha Hawk. We are preparing Advent and Christmas music now and we welcome all who wish to join us.

Christian Education Meeting - after the Worship service, in the church library *today*.

Primetimers- is going to Outback at 3101 Browns Mill Rd, on Wednesday, October 7th. We will meet briefly in the church library at 11:00, then proceed to the restaurant. If you can't make it at 11:00, just go to Outback for 11:45.

First Meeting for our Christmas decorating group will be October 4th after the Worship service, in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Alex Bolger for more information.



— FOR THE RECORD —

Attendance for last Sunday, September 20: **68**
Offerings & Financial Gifts last week: **\$2,755.00**

— OFFICE HOURS —

Monday
10:00AM — 2:00PM
Tuesday
2:00PM — 4:00PM
Wednesday
9:00AM — 3:00PM
Thursday & Friday
10:00AM — 2:00PM



Office Administrator: Laurel Toft
Email: office@oslc.church
Phone: (423) 282 - 2313

Today's Worship Assistants

Music Director:	Martha Hawk
Communion Assistant:	Diana Duncan
Lector:	Bryon Bolger
Acolyte:	Torin Martelli
Greeters:	Teresa Sweet & N/A
Ushers:	Mark Doty & Ricki Doty
Gift Bearers:	Kayla Heinold & Joseph Heinold
Tellers:	Julia Forsman & Alliese Martelli
Altar Guild:	Janeen Pennell
A/V Techs:	Travis Hobbs & Bryon Bolger
Organ/Piano:	Carolynn Bailey

— MARCHING ORDERS —

Members of the string quartet look around at each other, nod, and begin tuning up to play. The basketball team huddles around the coach as she draws up the play on a dry-erase board. The volunteer teams go over their assignments one last time before heading off to their positions for the charity run. In each instance, before beginning their mission, the group takes a moment to get on the same page, to get their marching orders.

In our lives as disciples of Christ, that moment is baptism.

Our marching orders, our mission guidelines, are marked on our hearts in baptism. The good news of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation in Jesus Christ that is poured over us spills out in our lives, and we are called to be agents of restoration: to bind up the brokenhearted, to care for all people and all creation. Just as the coach draws up the play or someone makes a list of the things that need to get done, we are imbued with a way of life in baptism's waters. Our motivation for this way of life is the love that has also been shown to us in Jesus: the love that feeds us each week as we gather around our Savior's table.



Even if we are sometimes reluctant, like the son in Jesus' parable who initially says he will not go to the vineyard but eventually goes, we are motivated to carry out the work to which God has called us because of the baptismal grace we have received. And whenever we pause to collect ourselves—whether it's tuning up before the performance, getting the play in the huddle, or just taking a deep breath before beginning the next item on the to-do list—we think of baptism, when our marching orders and our motivations are indelibly marked on us by Jesus.

THIS WEEK AT OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Mon.	September 28	9:00AM	Parent's Day Out
Tues.	September 29		
Wed.	September 30	9:00AM	Parent's Day Out
		4:30PM	Choir Practice
Thur.	October 1	10:30AM	Bible Study (Galatians 1)
Fri.	October 2	All Day	Pastor's Day Off
Sat.	October 3	All Day	Church Office Closed
SUN.	OCTOBER 4	9:00AM	Coffee & Sweets in Fellowship Hall
		9:00AM	Sunday School
		10:00AM	19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
		4:00PM	<i>Blessing of the Animals in Backyard</i>

