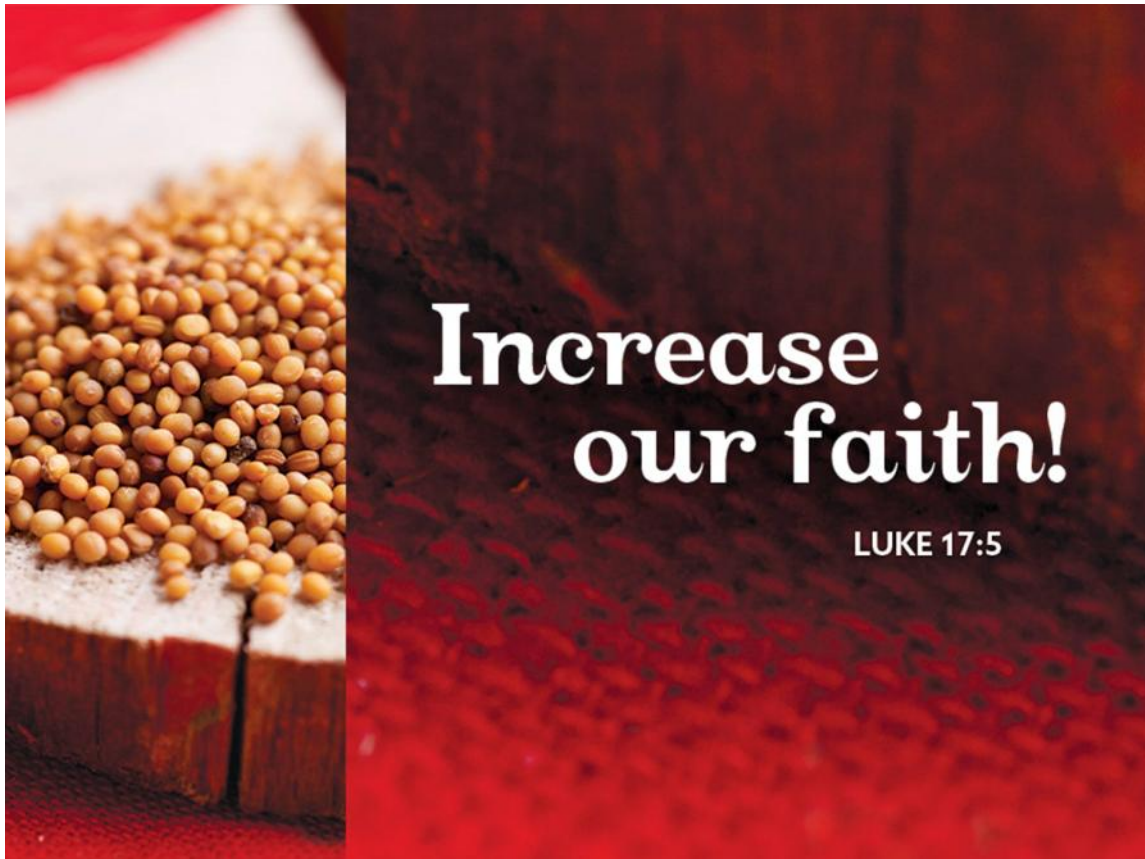


LIVING SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 5, 2025**

*Living Saviour Lutheran Church is a faith community
striving to live and love as Jesus did, eagerly welcoming all
and bringing healing, help, and hope to the world.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY:

Assisting Minister - **Donna Thomas**

Crucifer - **Jackson Thom**

Acolyte - **Charlie Parham**

INSTRUMENTALIST TODAY:

Trumpet - **Gordon Hann**

Woodwinds - **Barbara Tobin**

THE ALTAR FLOWERS for this Sunday are given by Pat Snodgrass to the glory of God.

THIS WORSHIP FOLDER contains all elements of the worship service. It is designed to encourage your participation. Please read the words in bold print and join in the singing of all hymns. Italicized words are instructions.

RESTROOMS are located at the back of the sanctuary and down the short hallway.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES!

Parents, you are always welcome to bring your children to worship with you. If you are comfortable and prefer having them in supervised childcare, it is available and is under the very capable and loving supervision of Ms. Carla. The Childcare Room is down the steps as you enter the gathering area outside the sanctuary. Someone will be happy to direct you there.

- **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BULLETINS** for readers and non-readers are available on the welcome table where the worship folders are located.
- **QUIET BAGS** for use by children during worship have been updated and arranged by age groups. They are located to the left as you enter the sanctuary. Please feel free to pick one up and replace it on the hooks when you leave.
- **SPARK FAMILY MAGAZINES** are available on the welcome table and are free for the taking!

NEIGHBOR BAGS have been assembled and are located in the blue bin outside of the sanctuary. Please take a few to keep in your car and hand out when the opportunity arises.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES are on page 18.

OCTOBER 2025 HEALTH AND WHOLENESS

The October theme for Health and Wholeness is Comfort Through Grief and Loss.

Tip#1: Grief is a natural response to loss of someone or something. Any loss can cause grief. The pain of grief can disrupt your physical and mental health, making it difficult to sleep, eat or think clearly. There are healthy ways to cope with the pain of loss and to eventually move on with your life. Allow yourself time to grieve and be patient with yourself. Allow the process to naturally unfold.

Psalms 34:18 The Lord is near to the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" arr. John Dixon
(Nancy Mersereau, piano and Don Huff, organ)

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING DIALOGUE

My heart, O God, is steadfast;
I will sing and make music with all my soul.

**I will praise you, LORD, among the nations;
I will sing of you among the peoples.**

For great is your love, higher than the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

**Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;
let your glory be over all the earth.**

Psalm 108: 1, 3-5

*Please turn to face the processional cross.
As the cross passes, please turn to the altar.*

GATHERING HYMN

"Founded on Faith"

ACS 1048



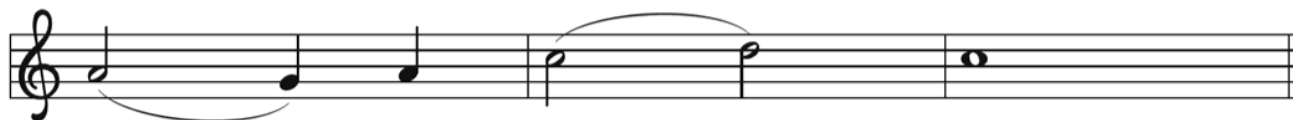
1 Found - ed on faith, the church— a - live by grace—
2 Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.
3 E - quipped by prayer, we live the Spir - it's call.
4 Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,
5 Found - ed on faith, called forth, em - pow' red to serve,



pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.
Bap - tized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
Em - pow' red to serve with gifts, both great and small,
we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;
we share God's end - less love with - out re - serve.



The word of God re - sounds through time and space:
Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say:
we bring the liv - ing hope of God to all.
a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.
Then let us shout a - loud the liv - ing Word!



Al - le - lu - ia!

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.

Benevolent, merciful God:

**When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us.
When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our
neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

A reading from Habakkuk.

¹ The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

² O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?

Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?

³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

⁴ So the law becomes slack,
and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous;
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1} I will stand at my watchpost
and station myself on the rampart;
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

² Then the LORD answered me and said:

Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.

³ For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.

⁴ Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

A reading from Timothy.

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

The word of the Lord.

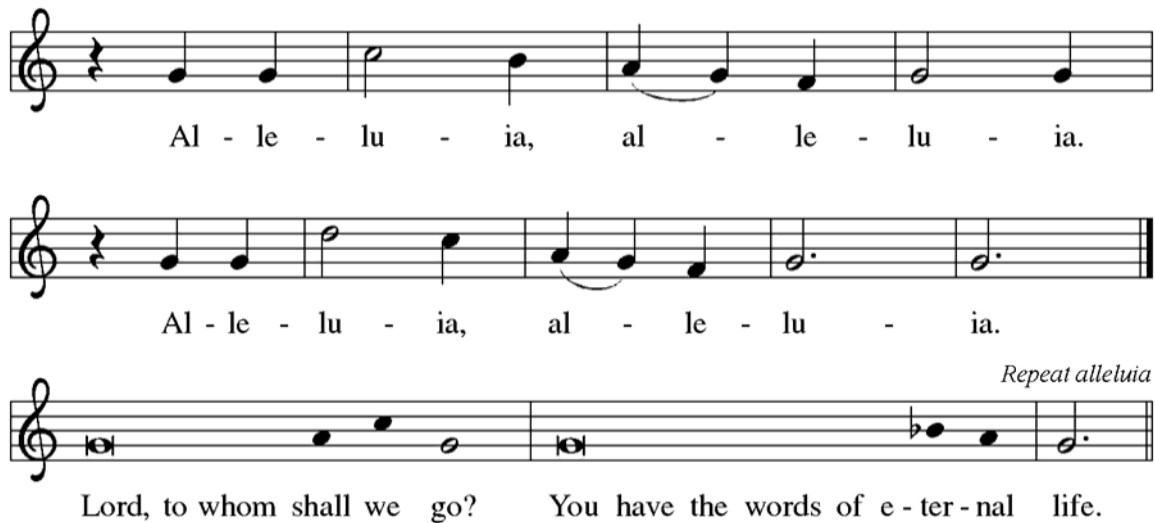
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 9

*Cantor sings Alleluia. All repeat Alleluia.
Cantor sings verse. All sing Alleluia.*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: Luke 17: 5-10

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Sara Ilderton

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"How Firm a Foundation"

ELW 796



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

O God of the church, you give the church a treasure in Jesus Christ. Draw us into the gift of faith passed down from generation to generation.

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

O God of creation, you nourish the earth with grace and mercy. Bring favorable weather during the harvest season and sustain all creation along with all who labor in the field.

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

O God of nations and communities, give leaders and all in authority a spirit of making just and righteous laws for the welfare of those they serve. Bring peace to countries affected by war and violence.

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

O God of those in need, you care for those who are sick, oppressed, bereaved, lonely, and poor. Come to the help of all in need, especially those we name aloud or in silence...

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

O God of ages past, thank you for the witness of those who have died in faith. May the faith of those who now rest in your merciful arms shape our faith in your Son, Jesus Christ.

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

After exchanging the peace with those near you, please be seated.

MINISTRY MINUTE

WE SHARE THE SUPPER OF THE LORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and make good your vows to the Most High.

Psalm 50:14

The offering plate is passed. You may also give electronically using the QR code on the back cover.

MUSICAL OFFERING "Then Sings My Soul" Mary McDonald
(The music for this anthem given by Corky Carver in loving memory of her husband, Bill)

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING HYMN

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

W&P 35

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve

you; cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, that

I might be re - newed. So fill me and

heal me, and bring me back to you. Cre -

ate in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord of the harvest,

we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.

**Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.**

**Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

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, our privilege and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

>>>>Cont'd>>>>

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy are you, O God and holy is your Son Jesus.
In him you revealed the fullness of your grace.
He came among us sowing seeds of faith and love;
walking this earth, feeding the hungry, calling the lost,
caring for the forgotten, healing those who reached out, teaching those
who sought wisdom, and revealing your kingdom in our midst.
When he was betrayed by his friends
and killed by his enemies,
you abolished death and raised him to life.

The celebrant continues with the Words of Institution.

With this bread and this cup, we celebrate the meal Jesus asked us to
share as we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

Holy Spirit, come now among us.
Bless these gifts of bread and wine,
and in receiving them, bless us,
that we may become Christ's body in the world,
bringing healing, help, and hope to all.

All glory and praise to you Father,
Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Please be seated.

An usher will direct you forward for Communion.

Communion is served at the head of the aisle.

We use wheat wafers, wine and white grape juice. If you need a gluten free wafer, please make that known to the pastor.

For any who desire a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed. Prayers for healing are also available for any who wish.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

*The body of Christ given for you.
The blood of Christ shed for you*

COMMUNION HYMN

"Lamb of God"

ELW 9



The musical score for the hymn "Lamb of God" is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace." The score ends with a double bar line.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

MUSIC DURING SHARING OF BREAD AND WINE

Handbell Ensemble: "How Firm a Foundation" arr. Anne K Organ
(Janet Axtman, Linda Francis, Dan Haseley, Steve Vick)
(Nancy Mersereau, piano)

Please join in singing the hymns.

“Speak O Lord”

Speak O Lord as we come to You
To receive your food and Your holy word
Take Your truth plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us Lord full obedience
Holy reverence true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity
Cause our faith to rise
Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority
Words of power that can never fail

Speak O Lord and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us
Speak O Lord till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory

Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Take Me As I Am". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The first system contains the lyrics "Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;". The second system contains the lyrics "set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.".

Please stand as you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood, strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants.

Send us to do good, striving to live and love as Jesus did, eagerly welcoming all and bringing healing help and hope to the world. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

WE ARE SENT TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The LORD look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"We've Come This Far By Faith"

ELW 633



We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord;



trust-ing in his ho-ly word, he's nev-er failed us yet.



Oh, can't turn a-round, we've come this far by



faith. We've come this far by faith.

Leader



1 Just re-mem-ber the good things God has
2 Don't be dis-cour-aged with trou-ble in your



done, things that seemed im-pos-si-ble; oh,
life; he'll bear your . . . bur-dens, and



praise him for the vic-t'ries he has won. Oh!
move . . . all the dis-cord and strife. Oh!

Text: Albert A. Goodson, 1933–2003

Music: THIS FAR BY FAITH, Albert A. Goodson

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ goes with you.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Childs

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Great Thanksgiving and Thanksgiving at the Table: Presbyterian Church in Canada and Laughbird Liturgies. Adapted.

“Founded on Faith”

Text: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

Music: FOUNDED ON FAITH, Paul D. Weber

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“Speak O Lord”

CCLI Song # 4615235

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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“Take Me As I Am”

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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THIS WEEK AT LIVING SAVIOUR

Sunday: October 5

- 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation
- 9:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:45 a.m. "Support Through Loss and Grief" Program

Monday: October 6

- 8:00 a.m. Ready Set 4 ABA
- 5:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165
- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You

Tuesday: October 7

- 8:00 a.m. Ready Set 4 ABA
- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 6:45 p.m. Cub Scouts Pack 265

Wednesday: October 8

- 8:00 a.m. Ready Set 4 ABA
- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday: October 9

- 8:00 a.m. Ready Set 4 ABA
- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga
- 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable
- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You

Friday: October 10

- 8:00 a.m. Ready Set 4 ABA

Saturday: October 11

- 10:00 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir

Sunday: October 12

- 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation
- 9:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School
- 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir
- 10:30 a.m. Worship



LIVING SAVIOUR

Lutheran Church

Living Saviour Lutheran Church
6817 Carmel Road
Charlotte, North Carolina 28226
(704) 542-3626

The Reverend Sara Ilderton, Pastor
Don Huff, Director of Music Ministry
Nancy Mersereau, Assistant Musician
Laura Schwab, Administrative Assistant
Susan Hall, Treasurer
Elsie Davis, LS Preschool Director

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