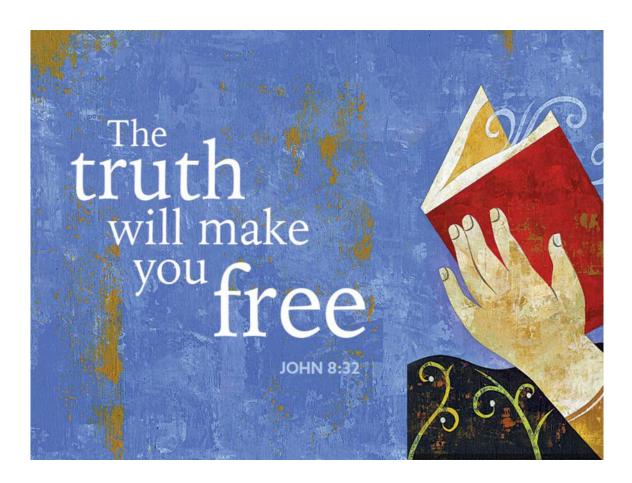
LIVING SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



REFORMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 26, 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 - Aliah Church Crucifer - Riley Skidmore Acolyte - Henry Schwab

INSTRUMENTALIST TODAY:

Trumpet - **Gordon Hann**Woodwinds - **Barbara Tobin**

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Mike and Laura Michael praising God for our confirmands.

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 26.

OCTOBER 2025 HEALTH AND WHOLENESS

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

Tip#4: Support yourself emotionally in your grief by taking care of yourself physically. Allow yourself to enjoy a walk in nature alone or with a friend. Eat nourishing foods. Relax with a good book or music or prayerful meditation before bedtime to encourage good sleep. Recognize the difference between grief and depression. Seek medical help for unresolved anxiety and feelings of hopelessness.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

REFORMATION SUNDAY

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

GATHERING VOLUNTARY "Fanfare" Jean Mouret

(Barbara Tobin and Gordon Hann)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "A Mighty Fortress" arr. Joel Raney

(Barbara Tobin, soprano saxophone)

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING DIALOGUE

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God.

Blessed be God, the fountain of living water.

Blessed be God, the rock who gave us birth.

Blessed be God, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

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

GATHERING HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

ELW 504

All sing - verses 1,2,4 Choir Only - Verse 3



- 1 A might y for tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re-
- 3 Though hordes of dev-ils fill the land all threat-'ning to de-
- 4 God's Word for ev er shall a bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; ject - ed. vour us, fear it;

he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and But now cham-pion comes to fight, whom a we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they for God him - self fights by side with



wins sal - va - tion glo rious. ed. God him - self e lect can - not o - ver pow'r us. weap-ons of the Spir it.

The old sa - tan - ic foe You ask who this may be? Let this world's ty - rant rage; Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe!
The Lord of hosts is he!
in bat - tle we'll en - gage!
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse,

With craft and dread - ful might Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, His might is doomed to fail; though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. God's on - ly Son, a - dored. God's judg-ment must pre - vail! they can - not win the day. On earth he has no e - qual. He holds the field vic - to - rious. One lit - tle word sub - dues him. The king-dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship

Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

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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.

Almighty God, gracious Lord,

we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.

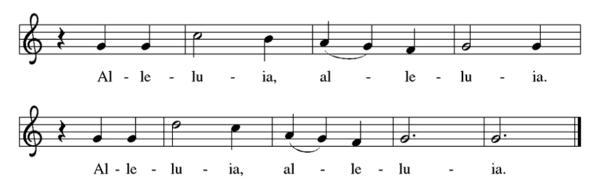
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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



Verse:

If you continue in my word, you are truly $^{\rm I}$ my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will $^{\rm I}$ make you free. (John 8:31-32)

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

 34 Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35 The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. 36 So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

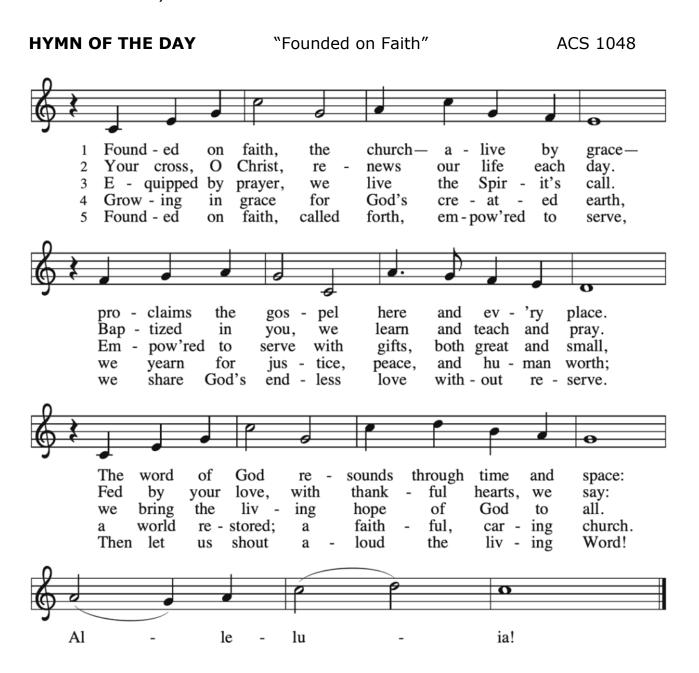
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

REFLECTIONS Confirmands



Text: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

Music: FOUNDED ON FAITH, Paul D. Weber

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Please be seated.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM: CONFIRMATION

PRESENTATION

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Alexander Dean Hatcher, Addison Rose Noonkester, Riley Christine Skidmore and Jackson Cole Thom, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Those making affirmation are presented:

I present Alexander Dean Hatcher, Addison Rose Noonkester, Riley Christine Skidmore and Jackson Cole Thom, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for Alexander Dean, Addison Rose, Riley Christine, and Jackson Cole, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses the candidates.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Creator who is present, supportive, proud, merciful and absolutely loving.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, fully human and fully divine, born of Mary to bring light to the world. He taught us to love and serve all people. He suffered a criminal's death, was buried and rose again on the third day – Proof that death loses.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the giver of life.

I believe in the holy universal church.

I believe in the unity of believers and followers of Christ.

I believe in the forgiveness of sins,
the church as the risen body of Christ,
and that love has no end. Amen.

You have made public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: 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?

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

People of God, do you promise to support Alex, Addison, Riley and Jackson and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Those making affirmation kneel.

The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

Let us pray.

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in (Alex, Addison, Riley, Jackson) the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm their faith, guide their life, empower them in serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to everlasting life.

Amen.

Let us rejoice with this sisters and brothers in Christ. 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.

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

We pray for the church...Help us to be faithful witnesses to the good news of redemption by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for the world...Be our refuge and strength in trouble. Bring an end to the desolations of war, famine, and pollution.

God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for this community...Dwell in the midst of this city that your people may stand secure. Speak your word of grace and peace. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We pray for loved ones...Remember your covenant with us. Comfort those who are suffering, especially those we name aloud or in silence...

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.

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

"Refuge and Strength"

Mark Hayes

(Glenda Kilminster, Director)

Text: based on Psalm 46 ("Reformation Psalm)

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING HYMN

ate in me

a clean heart, O God,

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

W&P 35



that

I

might serve

you.

OFFERING PRAYER

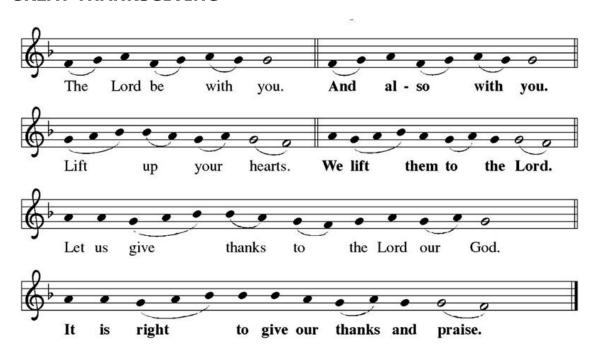
Let us pray.

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.

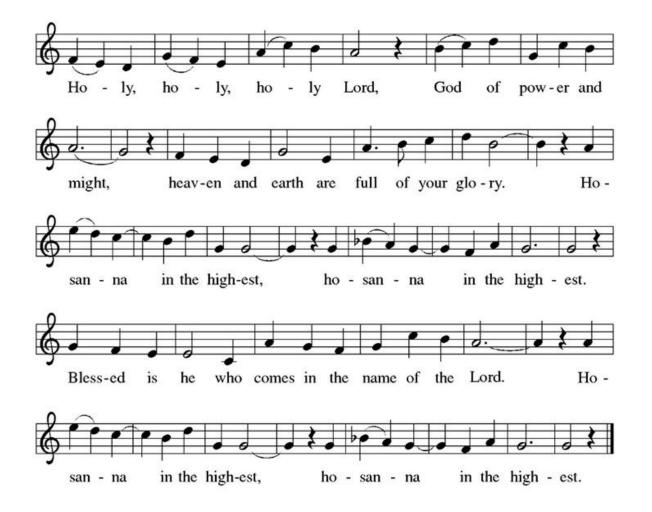
Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



Blessed are you, holy God and blessed is your Son,
Jesus Christ, who came to teach us your truth.
In this truth we are set free from the powers of evil and death.
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:

>>>>>



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The celebrant continues with the Word of Institution.

Remembering therefore your goodness and grace, we offer ourselves to you with gratitude as we proclaim the mystery of our faith:



>>>>>

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine. Clothe us in the righteousness of Christ, that we, being delivered from sin and justified by grace through faith may praise and glorify you. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Savior; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the Holy Spirit now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

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

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 COMMUNION

Please be seated.

An usher will direct you forward for Communion.

Communion is served around the altar rail. You may kneel or stand.

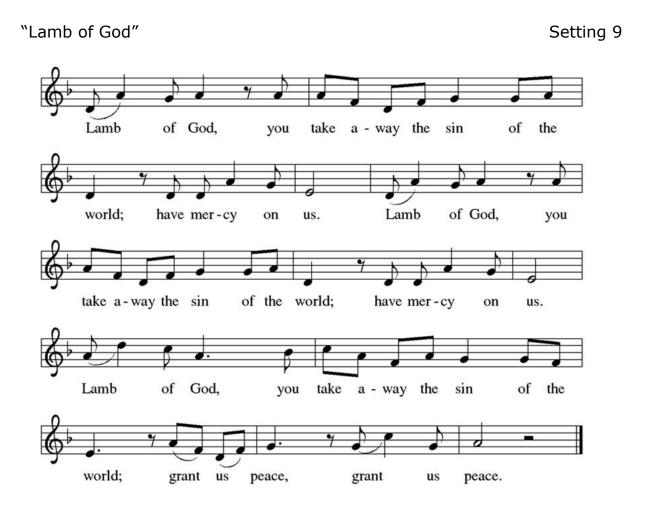
We use wheat wafers, wine and white grape juice. If you need a gluten free wafer, please make that known to the pastor.

For any who desire a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

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

COMMUNION HYMN



MUSIC DURING SHARING OF BREAD AND WINE

Please join in singing the hymns.

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The love of God was magnified
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live (Interlude)

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ (Interlude)

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand (2x)

"Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone"

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me I once was lost but now I'm found Was blind but now I see

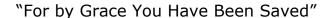
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace (Repeat)

When we've been there ten thousand years Bright shining as the sun We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun. Than when we'd first begun. Than when we'd first begun.



ELW 598



- For by grace you have been saved and e-ven faith is not your
- 2 "So my grace is all-suf-fi-cient for each child who is my
- So this weak ness with con tent ment I'll ac cept now in my-



of own, it's the gift God for you and not the works that you have for my strength is now made per - fect for each child who is my all my hard - ships, pains, and griefs that still lie deep with - in my -





Text: Kari Tikka, b. 1946; tr. Michael Harper Music: ARMOLAULU, Kari Tikka

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Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell
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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

God, our fortress and our strength, bless you with trust and peace.

And may the holy Trinity, + one God, guide you always in faith, hope and love. **Amen.**



DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"A Mighty Fortress"

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"Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone"

CCLI Song # 4768151

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"The Church's One Foundation"

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

THIS WEEK AT LIVING SAVIOUR

Sunday: October 26

- 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

Monday: October 27

- 8:00 a.m. Ready Set 4 ABA
- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You
- 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165

Tuesday: October 28

- 8:00 a.m. Ready Set 4 ABA
- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 11:00 a.m. Quilt Ministry
- 6:45 p.m. Cub Scouts Pack 265

Wednesday: October 29

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

Thursday: October 30

- 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. Yoga 4 You

Friday: October 31

• 8:00 a.m. Ready Set 4 ABA

Saturday: November 1

• 10:00 a.m. Yoga 4 You

Sunday: November 2

- 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 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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