

LIVING SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026**

*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!

LSLC LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The building of Living Saviour Lutheran Church, and the larger area surrounding it, is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Catawba, Cheraw, Sugaree and Waxhaw people. We acknowledge their presence here since time immemorial, and we honor those who lived here before this congregation, or this city, came to be, who were the first stewards of the land, the first people who offered the first prayers and sang the first songs into the very soil under our feet.

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Pastor Charlie Zimmerman
Deacon Wendy Roberts

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Crucifer - **Rhys Plunkett**
Acolyte - **Cole Plunkett**

INSTRUMENTALISTS:

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

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given in honor of the marriage of Heather Langan and Brian Cone. Their wedding is today, September 6.

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.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES are on page 22.

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Great is the Lord"
(Barbara Tobin, soprano saxophone)

Larsen

Please stand as you are able and turn to face the baptismal font.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity,
✠ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and placed us in a well-watered garden. In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock. When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters. At the cross, you washed us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere. Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love. Satisfy all who thirst and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ, our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

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



1 Can - te - mos al Se - ñor un him - no de a - le - grí - a,
 2 Can - te - mos al Se - ñor un him - no de a - la - ban - za
 1 Oh, sing to God a - bove a hymn of joy - ful greet - ing,
 2 Oh, sing to God a - bove a hymn of praise and bless - ing,



un cán - ti - co de a - mor al na - cer el nue - vo dí - a.
 que ex - pre - se nues - tro a - mor, nues - tra fe y nues - tra es - pe - ran - za.
 a song of grate - ful love in the new day's light re - peat - ing:
 a song of grate - ful love, hope and faith our hearts ex - press - ing:



El hi - zo el cie - lo, el mar, el sol y las es - tre - llas
 En to - da la crea - ción pre - go - na su gran - de - za,
 you made the sea and sky, the sun and stars in splen - dor;
 cre - a - tion lifts its voice to tell your might and glo - ry,



y vio en e - llos bon - dad, pues sus o - bras e - ran be - llas.
 a - sí nues - tro can - tar va a - nun - cian - do su be - lle - za.
 de - light shone in your eye— all your works were filled with won - der.
 and we, too, will re - joice to pro - claim the sav - ing sto - ry.

Refrain / Estribillo



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya! Can - te - mos al Se -
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Oh, sing to God a -



ñor: ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu -
 bove: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu -



ya! Can - te - mos al Se - ñor: ¡A - le - lu - ya!
 ia! Oh, sing to God a - bove: Al - le - lu - ia!

Last time



Can - te - mos al Se - ñor: ¡A - le - lu - ya!
 Oh, sing to God a - bove: 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.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy.

Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40

Please read responsively.

³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴ **Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

³⁶ **Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.**

³⁷ Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.

³⁸ **Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹ Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰ **Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.**

READING: Romans 13:8-14

A reading from Romans.

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Setting 6



GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Wendy Roberts

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"In All Our Grief"

ELW 615



1 In all our grief and fear we turn to you.
2 Help us to put a - side the an - gry word,
3 You did not e - ven spare your on - ly Son.
4 God, when we suf - fer all that we can bear,



O God, you know all that we think or do,
the clench - ing fist, the wish and will to hurt.
He lived our griefs and bore all e - vil done,
then let us know that you in truth are near



you know the pain we put each oth - er through.
Teach us the way in which love best is served.
but through his cross, re - demp - tion has been won.
and will not leave us lost in all our fear.

Refrain



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, grant us peace.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: FREDERICKTOWN, Charles R. Anders, b. 1929

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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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world in proclaiming the message of your love. Open our hearts and minds to receive your word in unexpected ways.

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

Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster, especially those affected by floods, wildfires and earthquakes.

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

Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all.

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

Attending God, wake us up to those around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us. Hear the prayers we offer aloud or in silence...

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

Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the faithful witness of all who have gone before us.

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

Grant the prayers we have offered and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have,
for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15, 16*

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

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Awake My Heart and Render"

Jane Marshall

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. **Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The celebrant continues with the Words of Institution.

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.**

ACCLAMATION AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread is raised and broken.

Alleluia! Remembering that Christ our Passover has been given for us,
let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Please be seated.

An usher will direct you forward for Communion.

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

We use wheat wafers, white grape juice and wine. 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

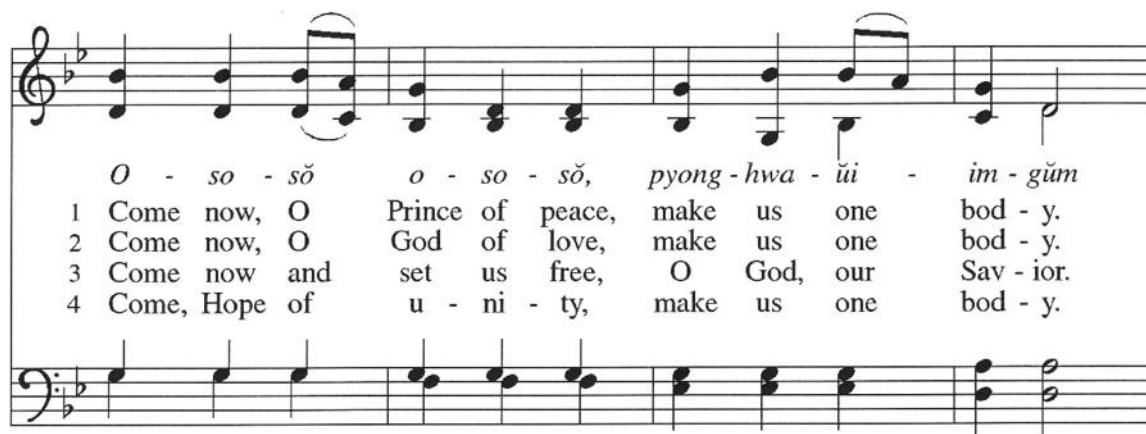
*The body of Christ given for you.
The blood of Christ shed for you.*

HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please join in singing the hymns which follow.

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace"

ELW 247



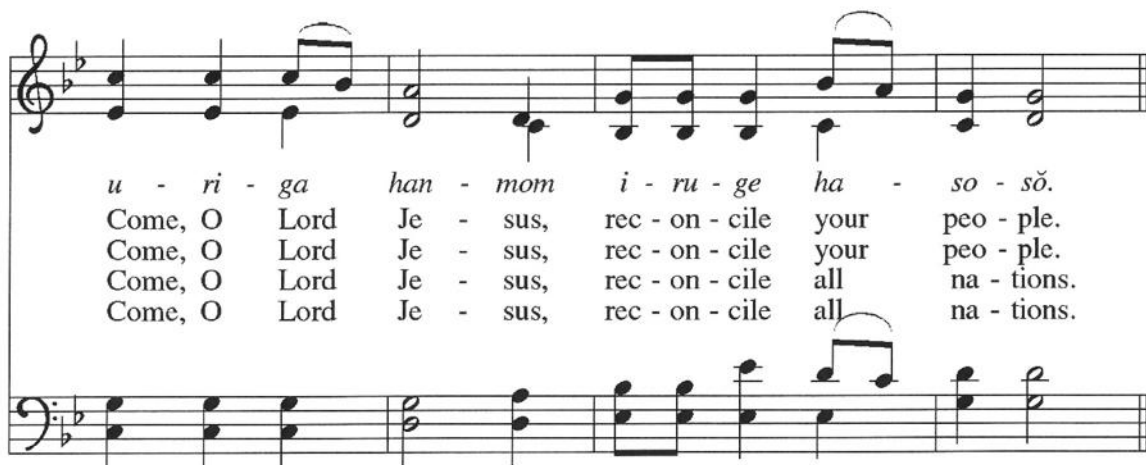
O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ŭi - im - gŭm

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.

2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.

3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.

4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope
 Music: OSOSŎ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
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Refrain



Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



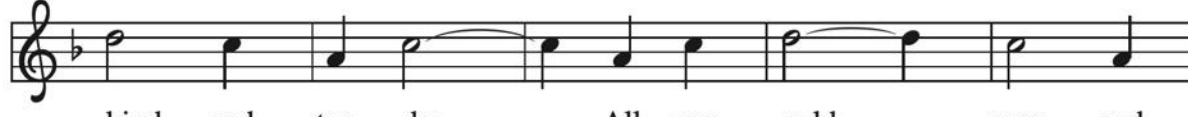
liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



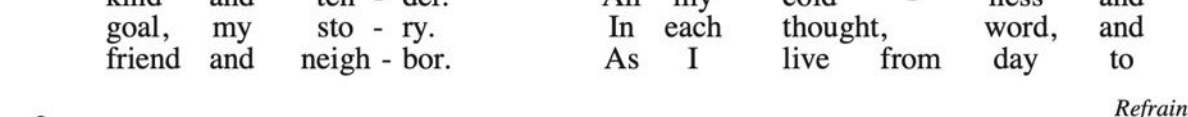
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and



goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and

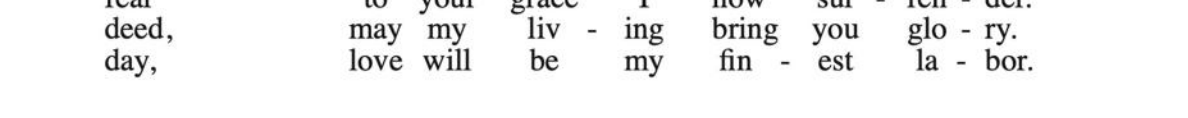


friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

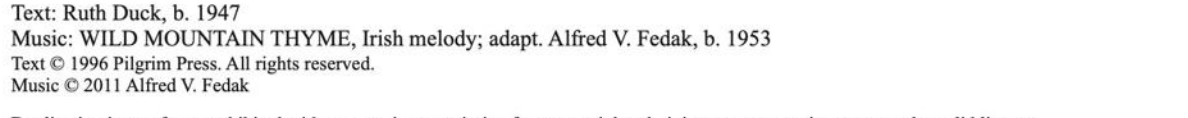
Refrain



fear deed, to your grace I now sur - ren - der.



may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.



love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

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Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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"Beloved, God's Chosen"

ELW 648



1 Be - lov - ed, God's cho - sen, put on as a gar - ment
 2 With - in, call forth Wis - dom, to dwell in you rich - ly;
 3 Be - lov - ed, God's cho - sen, put on as a gar - ment



com - pas - sion, for - give - ness, and good - ness of heart.
 let peace rule your hearts and that peace be of Christ.
 com - pas - sion, for - give - ness, and good - ness of heart.



A - bove all, be - fore all, let love be your rai - ment
 And from the heart's cham - ber, be - lov - ed and ho - ly,
 A - bove all, be - fore all, let love be your rai - ment



that binds in - to one ev - 'ry dis - so - nant part.
 let sing - ing thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er rise.
 that binds in - to one ev - 'ry dis - so - nant part.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953
 Music: ANDREW'S SONG, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962
 Text © 1994 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
 Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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Sing English text only

The musical score is written for a single voice part, using a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second line of music corresponds to the second line of lyrics. The score ends with a double bar line.

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,

u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est.
God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.

Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.; Taizé Community; tr. *With One Voice*

Music: TAIZÉ UBI CARITAS, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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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.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. **In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

WE ARE SENT TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

BLESSING

The holy Three,
the holy One
increase your hope,
strengthen your faith,
deepen your love,
and ☩ grant you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN**"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"**

ELW 545



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.
Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

DISMISSAL

Go out into the world. Share the good news. Strive for peace and justice.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE**"When Morning Gilds the Skies"**

Weber

2026 HEALTH AND WHOLENESS

The theme for September is financial health.

Tip #1: Money can be a major source of stress, affecting your health. Money mindfulness can be a useful approach. Shop and spend smarter. Slow down. Be aware when you are making a financial decision. Give yourself a day or two before making a purchase. Put decisions in context of what makes you happy today and also fits your future financial plans.

1 Timothy 6:17

As to the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.

Credits/Acknowledgements

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“Oh, Sing to God Above”

Text: Carlos Rosas, b. 1939; tr. *With One Voice*
Music: ROSAS, Carlos Rosas
Spanish text and music © 1976 Resource Publications, Inc.
English text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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THIS WEEK AT LIVING SAVIOUR

Sunday: September 6

- 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday: September 7 - Labor Day - Church Office Closed

Tuesday: September 8

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265

Wednesday: September 9

- 10:00 a.m. Bible/Book Study
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday: September 10

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga
- 6:15 p.m. G@thering at the Table
- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You

Friday: September 11

- bRidge Retreat @ Lutheridge

Saturday: September 12

- bRidge Retreat @ Lutheridge
- 10:00 a.m. Yoga 4 You

Sunday: September 13

- bRidge Retreat @ Lutheridge
- 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship



LIVING SAVIOUR

Lutheran Church

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

The Reverend Sara Ilderton, Pastor
Don Huff, Director, Music Ministry
Nancy Mersereau, Assistant Musician
Laura Schwab, Office Administrator
Amanda Thom, Director, Children, Youth & Families
Susan Hall, Treasurer
Elsie Davis, LS Preschool Director

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