

**LIVING SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA**



**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 18, 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!

THE VITALITY SURVEY link was sent out last Sunday. If you've completed the Congregational Vitality Survey, "Thank you!" If you haven't, please do so by next Sunday. We want to know what is/is not working in nurturing your relationship with God, each other, and the world around us. We want to remain faithful and vital as followers of Jesus.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY:

Assisting Minister - **Debby Borrelli**
Crucifer - **Cooper Thom**
Acolyte - **Ben Thom**

INSTRUMENTALISTS TODAY:

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

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Living Saviour Preschool 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. Feel free to pick one up and replace it on the hooks when you leave.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES are on page 17.

OUR NOISY OFFERING for October will go to Hospitality House of Charlotte. Hospitality House of Charlotte creates community for patients connecting to vital medical care. When families are experiencing a medical crisis, they provide more than just a temporary place to stay; they provide access to healthcare and a community of support. Their 20-bedroom house offers lodging to patients and caregivers receiving treatment in Charlotte. Families in medical crisis find not only a place of rest but also a community when they stay here.

Learn more on their website: <https://www.hospitalityhouseofcharlotte.org/>

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"There is a Fountain"
(Sandra Sample, piano)

arr. Greg Howlett

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Faithful God,

Have mercy on us.

**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgement on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gifts of mercy and grace for ourselves.

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

Amen.

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



1 You ser-vants of God, your Mas-ter pro-claim, and pub-lish a -
 2 As-cend-ed on high, al-might-y to save, yet still he is
 3 Sal-va-tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
 4 Then let us a-dore and give him his right, all glo-ry and



broad his won-der-ful name; the name, all-vic-to-rious, of
 nigh, his pres-ence we have. The great con-gre-ga-tion his
 loud and hon-or the Son. The prais-es of Je-sus the
 pow'r and wis-dom and might, all hon-or and bless-ing, with



Je-sus ex-tol; his king-dom is glo-rious and rules o-ver all!
 tri-umph shall sing, as-crib-ing sal-va-tion to Je-sus, our king!
 an-gels pro-claim, fall down on their fac-es, and wor-ship the Lamb.
 an-gels a-bove, and thanks nev-er ceas-ing, and in-fin-ite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

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

Sovereign God,

created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

READING: Genesis 1:27

A reading from Genesis.

²⁷ So God created humans in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 96:1-9

Please read responsively.

¹ Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

² **Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

³ Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴ **For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.

⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷ Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

⁸ **Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.**

⁹ Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/NOISY OFFERING

SERMON

Pastor Sara Ilderton

Please stand as you are able.

Refrain/Estribillo

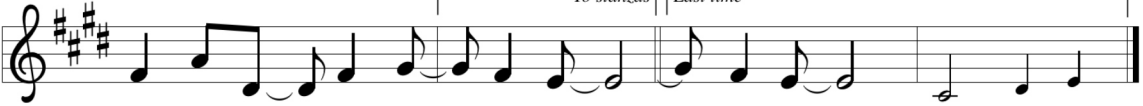


To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;

To stanzas *Last time*



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
1 Take my hands and let them move
2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
3 Take my voice and let me sing
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
at the im - pulse of thy love;
not a mite would I with - hold;
al - ways, on - ly for my King;
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
take my feet and let them be swift and
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
take my lips and let them be filled with
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

Refrain/Estribillo



pul - so de tu a - mor.
beau - ti - ful for thee.
pow'r as thou shalt choose.
mes - sag - es from thee.
be thy roy - al throne.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering especially those we name before you aloud or in silence...

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church. Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; 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

G@thering at the Table

WE SHARE THE SUPPER OF THE LORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.

Psalm 96:8

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

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Offertory"

John Ness Beck

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

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,
today and always. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

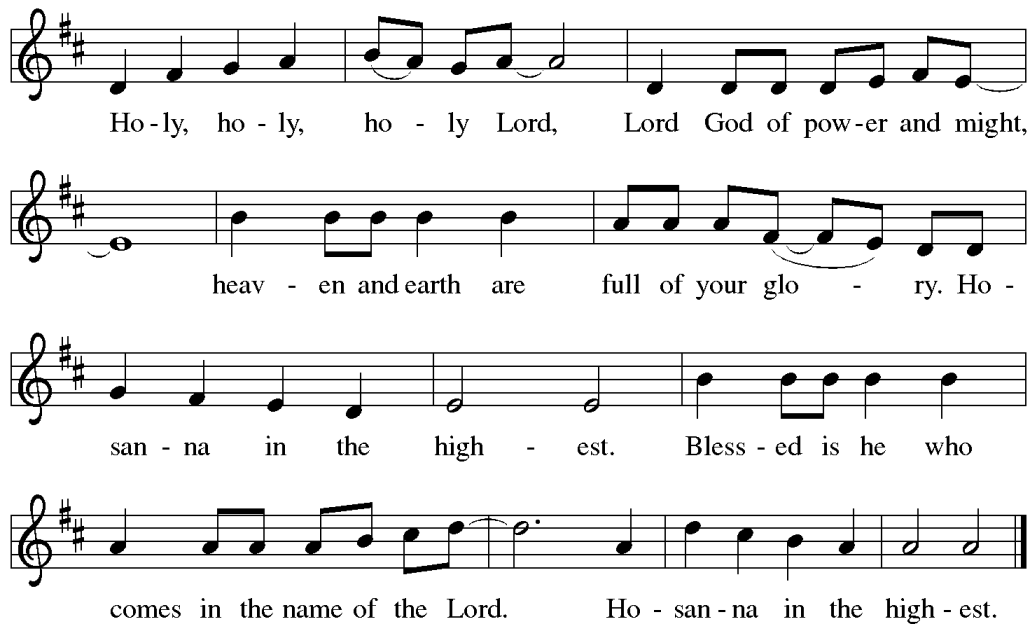
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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.

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, 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.**

ACCLAMATION AT THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Come Lord Jesus.

**Grace our table with your presence,
 and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

The bread is raised and broken.

Please be seated.

An usher will direct you forward for Communion.

Communion is served at head of the aisle.

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.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please join in singing the hymns which follow.

"God Extends an Invitation"

ELW 486

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics in Spanish and English. The lyrics are: Nues-tro Pa - dre nos in - vi - ta a la me - sa de la God ex - tends an in - vi - ta - tion to the ta - ble of cre - vi - da, don - de hay vi - no, luz y pan; y no - a - tion, where there's wine and light and bread. Here we so - tros nos reu - ni - mos, y lo nues - tro com - par - ti - mos, pues a - gath - er in thanks - giv - ing and we of - fer all our liv - ing. Here the sí - es la co - mu - nión; pues a - sí - es la co - mu - nión. feast of life is spread; here the feast of life is spread.

Text: Miria T. Kolling; English and Spanish tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: NUESTRO PADRE, Miria T. Kolling
Spanish and English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.
Music © Miria T. Kolling.

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"Blessed Assurance"

Piano Duet

Phoebe Knapp
arr. Joel Raney

"We Raise Our Hands to You, O Lord"

ELW 690



1 We raise our hands to you, O Lord, like
2 What good and bless - ing you be - stow are
3 Oh, make our bar - ren trees to grow, our
4 As sum - mer fol - lows spring-time's rain, grace
5 Through grace your new cre - a - tion lies in



emp - ty ves - sels. Oh, come to us and
free - ly giv - en. Your pow'r will make the
hands to blos - som, and let our lives bring
fol - lows sor - row, and grief and joy shall
hands held o - pen. O Giv - er of all



give us life from springs where liv - ing wa - ters flow.
weak - est strong and bar - ren branch-es start to bud.
forth such fruit that heals our neigh-bor's grief and pain.
bear much fruit, though hid - den from our hu - man eyes.
good - ness, come, dwell with us in our earth - ly home.

Text: Svein Ellingsen, b. 1929; tr. Hedwig T. Durnbaugh, b. 1929

Music: Trond Kverno, b. 1945

Tr. © Hedwig T. Durnbaugh

Music © 1978 Norsk Musikforlag

VI REKKER VÅRE HENDER FREM

8 5 8 8

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a key of three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The melody is in the Treble clef, and the bass line is in the Bass clef. The lyrics are: "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 music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and ties. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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.

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.

**By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

WE ARE SENT TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father,
the ✚ Son,
and the Holy Spirit,
remain with you always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"O God of Every Nation" Stanzas 1,2,4

ELW 713:1,2,4



1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,
2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease
4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
when hope and cour - age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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DISMISSAL

Go out with joy, striving to live and love as Jesus did,
welcoming all and bringing healing, help, and hope to the world.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"How Firm a Foundation"

Payne

2026 HEALTH AND WHOLENESS

POTENTIAL CLASS - NEED INPUT ON INTEREST

QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention is a free 1.5 hour course offered by Mental Health America. We can offer this training at Living Saviour if we have 30 people to commit to attending this one class. Just like CPR, QPR is an emergency response to someone in crisis and can save lives. Health and Wholeness would like to offer this class to our congregation and community in November on a Wednesday or Saturday afternoon, or we can plan a class in January.

If you're interested in attending, contact Laura Michael with your interest and if a Wednesday or Saturday works best for you. Encourage your teens, family and friends to come and learn to detect and prevent the tragedy of suicide. Please include your name and contact information.

Email Laura Michael at lmichael9901@gmail.com

2026 HEALTH AND WHOLENESS

The October theme is women's reproductive cancers.

Tip#3: Awareness of symptoms such as abnormal bleeding, pelvic pain, bloating, urinary changes, or persistent genitalia itching can prompt earlier evaluation and treatment of gynecological cancers. Vaginal bleeding that is heavier than usual or not related to the normal menstrual period can be a sign of vaginal, cervical or endometrial cancer. Feeling bloated in the abdomen, loss of appetite, gas, frequent urination and abnormal vaginal bleeding are possible signs of ovarian cancer. Constant itching can be a sign of vulvar cancer.

Psalm 103:2-3 Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits-who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, October 28 @ 11:30 a.m. - Women's Tea Party & Cancer Class

This is a one hour educational program focused on the prevention of female reproductive cancers. Our Health & Wholeness Ministry will host this class presented by Levine Cancer Center in our fellowship hall. During the session we will discuss risk reduction strategies as well as signs and symptoms of these cancers. The presentation is interactive, informative, and designed to help women better understand their health and the importance of early detection.

Bring your lunch and a friend! Tea and sweets will be provided!

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“Take My Life, That I May Be”

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875–1955
Music: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956
Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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THIS WEEK AT LIVING SAVIOUR

Sunday: October 18

- 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Middle/High School Hangout
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Monthly Council Meeting
- 5:30 p.m. bRidge Meeting

Monday: October 19

- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You
- 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165

Tuesday: October 20

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265

Wednesday: October 21

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

Thursday: October 22

- 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

Saturday: October 24

- 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Yoga 4 Yoga

Sunday: October 25 - Reformation Sunday

- 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Middle/High School Hangout
- 10:30 a.m. Worship



LIVING SAVIOUR

Lutheran Church

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Laura Schwab, Office Administrator
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Susan Hall, Treasurer
Elsie Davis, LS Preschool Director

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