Gracious Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church



Sunday, November 15, 2026

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Mission Statement

By the grace of God, Gracious Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church being of one body in Christ Jesus, made up of many parts, and having many gifts; provides a place for all to worship, praise, and glorify our Lord Jesus Christ. We teach the Word of God and spread the Good News through our service to one another and community. We encourage all to come and share their various gifts and talents.

THE 25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Call to Worship The Coming of the Lord Tan Hymnal #13, Order A

See, the day of the Lord comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the earth a desolation, and to destroy its sinners from it.

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light.

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.

But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord,

Their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed;

For a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Opening Hymn Praise Him, All Ye Little Children Tan #617

Prayer of the Day
Righteous God, **our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

First Reading – Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 Marilyn Sanders
7 Be silent before the Sovereign Lord, for the day of the Lord is near. The Lord has
prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited. 12 At that time I will
search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like
wine left on its dregs, who think, 'The Lord will do nothing, either good or bad.'
13 Their wealth will be plundered, their houses demolished. Though they build
houses, they will not live in them; though they plant vineyards, they will not drink
the wine." 14 The great day of the Lord is near—near and coming quickly. The cry
on the day of the Lord is bitter; the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry. 15 That
day will be a day of wrath—a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and
ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness—16a day of
trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers. 17 "I
will bring such distress on all people that they will grope about like those who are
blind, because they have sinned against the Lord. Their blood will be poured
out like dust and their entrails like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold will
be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath." In the fire of his jealousy the
whole earth will be consumed, for he will make a sudden end of all who live on the
earth.

Responsive Reading – Psalm 90:1-12

1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place
throughout all generations.
2 Before the mountains were born
or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
3 You turn people back to dust,
saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."
4 A thousand years in your sight
are like a day that has just gone by,
or like a watch in the night.
5 Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—
they are like the new grass of the morning:

6 In the morning it springs up new,
but by evening it is dry and withered.
7 We are consumed by your anger
and terrified by your indignation.
8 You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.
9 All our days pass away under your wrath;
we finish our years with a moan.
10 Our days may come to seventy years,
or eighty, if our strength endures;
yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow,
for they quickly pass, and we fly away.
11 If only we knew the power of your anger!
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due.
12 Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 **Marilyn Sanders**

1 Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to
you, 2 for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the
night. 3 While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on
them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But
you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you
like a thief. 5 You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not
belong to the night or to the darkness. 6 So then, let us not be like others, who are
asleep, but let us be awake and sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and
those who get drunk, get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be
sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a
helmet. 9 For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation
through our Lord Jesus Christ. 10 He died for us so that, whether we are awake or
asleep, we may live together with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and
build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Gospel Acclamation
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me, Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:14-30. **Glory to you O Lord!**

14 "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and
entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two
bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his
journey. 16 The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his
money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, the one with two bags of
gold gained two more. 18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a
hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 "After a long time the master of
those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 20 The man who had
received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted
me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.' 21 "His master replied,
'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I
will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'
22 "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me
with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.' 23 "His master replied, 'Well
done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will
put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'
24 "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I
knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering
where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your
gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' 26 "His master replied, 'You
wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather
where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my money on
deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back
with interest. 28 "'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has
ten bags. 29 For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance.
Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 30 And
throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be
weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Devotional Music **Your Grace and Mercy** **Tan #270**

Sermon……Minister Doshia Strong

Hymn of the Day **Thank you, Lord** **Tan #531**

The Apostle's Creed
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, he was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 the Community
Lay Assistant: God, in your mercy,
Congregation response: hear our prayer.

Announcements

Offertory Hymn

Offertory Prayer: Eternal God, **our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Hymn The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power Tan #256

Holy Communion
Everyone is invited to the Lord's Supper. Please raise your hand if you did not receive a communion kit, remain at your seat, an usher will bring a kit to you, and we will commune together. Children who do not receive communion may come forward for a blessing.

Post Communion Prayer
Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction
The holy Trinity,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Fill you with hope, joy, and peace, today and always.
Amen.

Closing Hymn **God Has Smiled on Me** **Tan #152**

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good morning and welcome to Gracious Saviour. We are grateful that you have chosen to worship and honor the Lord's name with us. If you are new to this church, we would like to thank you for worshiping with us and we warmly welcome you into the Gracious Saviour family as our brothers and our sisters.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO EVERYONE CELEBRATING THIS MONTH!! God bless you and enjoy your day!!

Jerusalem Ministry Meeting immediately following morning worship.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual November congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 29th immediately following morning worship. We will approve next year's budget and hold elections for Church Council. Open positions are Vice-President (2-year term), Treasurer (2-year term), Member at Large (3-year term), and Synod Assembly Delegates.

Christmas Concert Rehearsals

United Voices of Praise will rehearse on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.
Alto Rehearsal is on Thursdays at 4:30 p.m.
Soprano Rehearsal is on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.
Handbell Choir will rehearse on Saturdays at Noon.
Tenor/Bass Rehearsal is on Sundays at 12:30 p.m.

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School is now hybrid, in-person and on Zoom at 10:00 a.m.
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83844644439?pwd=dkIxVitIbFhRVXpXNHBISU90WkYwQT09 Meeting ID: 83844644439 Passcode: 751445

Monthly Food Pantry

The Gracious Saviour Community Food Pantry is open the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 11am – 1pm. The next food pantry day is Thursday, November 19, 2026. People can call the food pantry line at 313-634-1311.

Food Pantry Fundraiser

Please support the Gracious Saviour Community Food Pantry by purchasing your gift cards for the holiday. You can use the form provided on the table in the Narthex, or you can sign up online at raiseright.com and use the Enrollment Code: L8E189CIA665.

Health and Wellness

We did not receive enough interest, therefore, the Wellness Tea Making Class that was scheduled for Saturday, 11/21/26 at 11:00am has been postponed.

Save the Date

Annual Christmas Concert, December 20th at 5pm.

Tithes and Offering

–Ways to give –

-Zelle - GraciousSaviourLC
-Cash App - $GraciousSaviourLC
-PayPal – Gracious Saviour Lutheran Church
-https://www.gracioussaviourlutheran.org/donate/
-Mail to the church: 19484 James Couzens Hwy., Detroit, 48235