



Our Saviour Lutheran Church

56 Cleveland Drive Croton-on-Hudson New York 10520
E-mail: mail@oursaviourcroton.org Telephone: (914) 271-4632

September 13, 2026

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Worship

The order of worship is set out in this bulletin. The congregation responds in parts marked in bold. Hymns are taken from our hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW).

We Gather

Centering Music

Ring of *The Morningstar*

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:
 We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,
 in whom there is no condemnation,
 but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
 Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

Opening Hymn - ELW 835 All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



1 All crea-tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad - ows, join the
 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen - dor
 grain: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
 throng: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
 grieve: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur - dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
 clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
 fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Greeting

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen

Gloria



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for

good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalms 103:1-13

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**

³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶ **O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷ You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸ **LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

⁹ you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰ **You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹² **As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.

³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the

day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Alleluia Verse



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

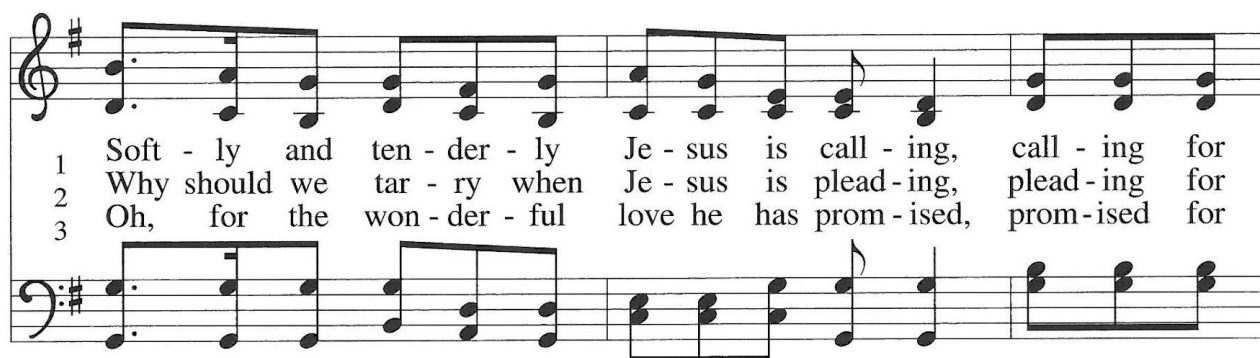
²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all

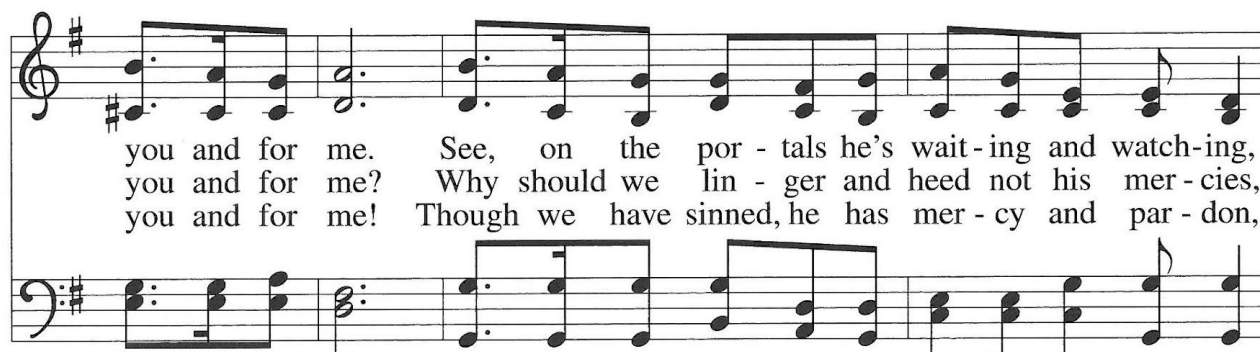
his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

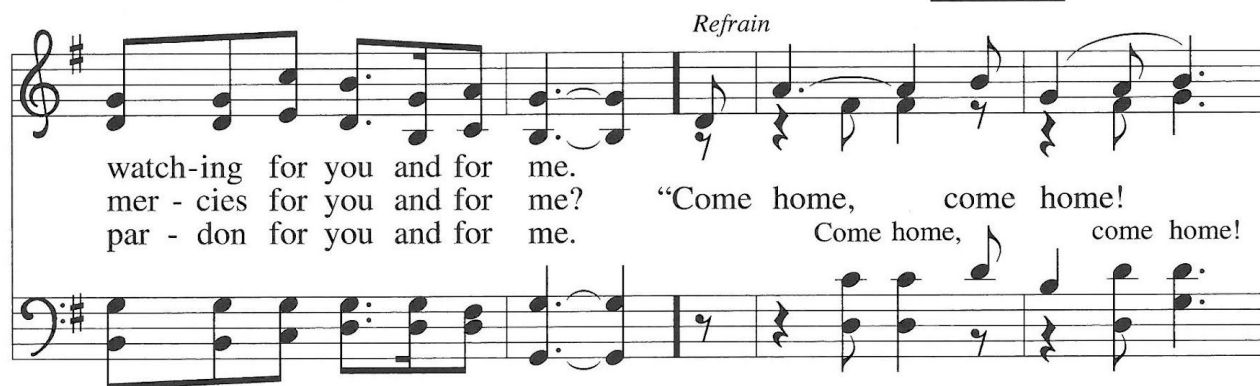
Sermon



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



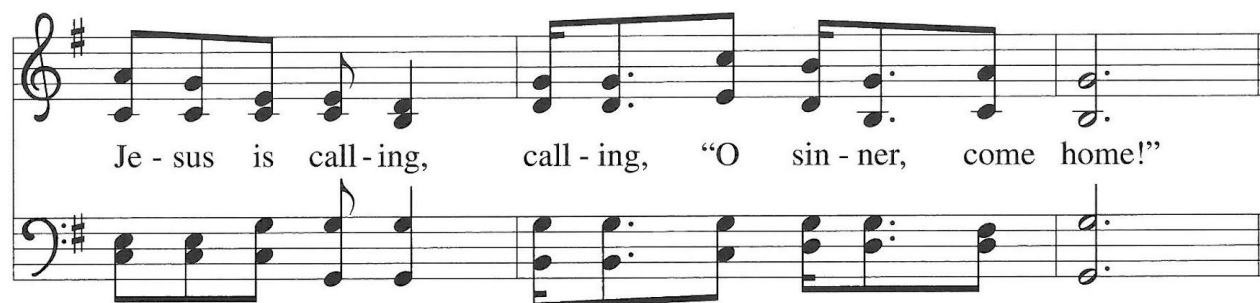
you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,



Refrain
 watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!"



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Prayers of Intercession

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

A brief silence.

Move your church throughout the world away from judging and despising others. Lead us to embody the forgiveness you have given us in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The endless beauty of your creation reminds us of your mercy. Protect those who care for farms and ranches. Guide those who lead us to wonder at your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Raise up leaders (*like John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, whom we remember today*) to hold all in authority accountable for any misuse of the power entrusted to them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Calm the fears of all in need with your promises. Compassionately free the lives of any who feel bound by their failures. Remember your children in need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ground this congregation in the welcome you show us in forgiving our sin. Inspire each of us to welcome others for your honor and glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With you is found the joy and promise of eternal life. Keep us in that joy as we remember (*name/s, and*) all those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

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

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

We share the peace.

Offering

Financial offerings are received. Please stand as the gifts are brought forward.

**This QR code links
to our PayPal
account and may be
used to make a
one-time gift.**



Musical Offering

Prayer of Dedication

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.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to God.
Let us give thanks to our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory, O God,
brimming with your extravagant love.
In the beginning you created,
not because you needed to
but because it delighted you:

**you made the textures of feathers and fur,
the fragrance of pine and saltwater,
glinting minerals and sparkling stars,
humankind in gorgeous diversity.**

You became like us in Jesus Christ,
whose life magnified the abundance of your grace
and the lavishness of your love.

**He saw the richness of a widow's pennies
and the surpassing fineness of a lily's petals
and the towering greatness of a mustard seed
and fed thousands with five loaves and two fish.**

On the night of his arrest,
he gathered his friends for a simple meal
and set a feast of love.
He took bread, gave thanks,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat;
this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,
he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink,
saying: This cup
is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

And so we remember: **the command to love as he has loved.**
We remember: **the life of God poured out for us like wine.**
We remember: **the resurrection that shattered the power of death.**
We remember: **Christ's ascension into heaven and promise to come again.**

Let this bread and cup magnify your prodigal love,
mirroring the heavenly feast that has no end.
Bring us at last to the infinite table
where you have gathered all your holy ones
in the new creation where every tear is wiped away,
and every need has been met in you.
All honor and glory is yours, O God,
who is both Giver and Gift,
with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy church,
now and forever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**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**

Agnus Dei



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

The Distribution

There is a place for you at the banquet.
 Come and feast at Jesus' table.

All are invited to come forward to receive the holy gifts. Those not receiving may come forward for a blessing or remain in the pews in prayer.

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

Post-Communion Sentence

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
 keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

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

Blessing

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

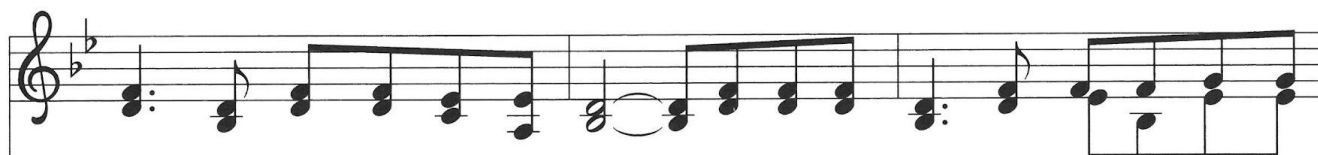
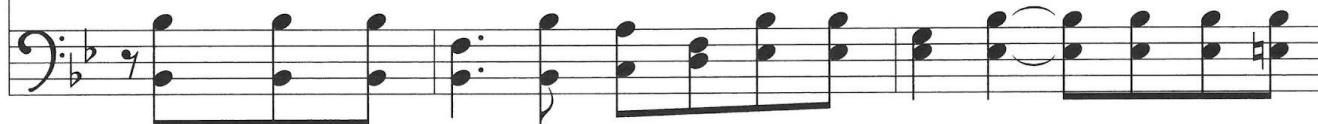
Amen.

Hymn - ELW 856

How Great Thou Art



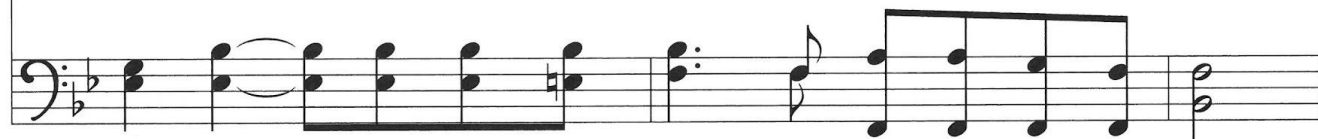
1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o -



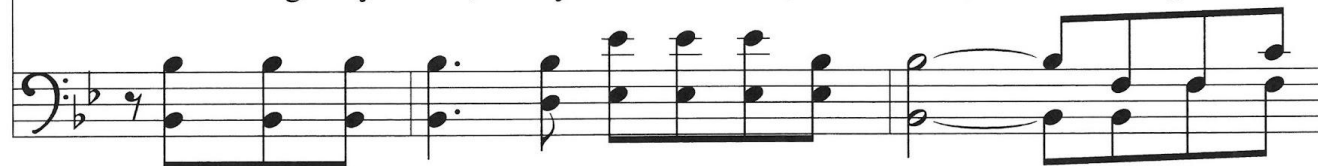
thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"



Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to

thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Congregation adjourns to engage in loving service in the world.

Thank You to Those Serving Today Lector Hospitality Altar Guild Offering Teller --- Karen Magerlein Jamie Polcari David Greffenius	Altar Flowers Flowers are given by Marilyn Grantner in memory of the Louie and Grantner families.
---	--

Announcements

Weekly Devotional Readings and Next Sunday's Readings

Monday, September 14, 2026: Psalm 133; Genesis 48:8-22; Hebrews 11:23-29

Monday, September 14, 2026: Holy Cross

Tuesday, September 15, 2026: Psalm 133; Genesis 49:29-50:14; Romans 14:13-15:2

Wednesday, September 16, 2026: Psalm 133; Genesis 50:22-26; Mark 11:20-25

Thursday, September 17, 2026: Psalm 145:1-8; Nahum 1:1, 14-2:2; 2 Corinthians 13:1-4

Friday, September 18, 2026: Psalm 145:1-8; Nahum 2:3-13; 2 Corinthians 13:5-10

Saturday, September 19, 2026: Psalm 145:1-8; Zephaniah 2:13-15; Matthew 19:23-30

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Sept. 20: Jonah 3:10—4:11, Psalm 145:1-8, Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16

Prayer List	Serving in Armed Forces	Other Concerns of Our Community
John Nurmi Arlita Hoyt Christine Olszanski Kolbe Olszanski Deanna Platt Bob Riekert Jim Murtha Jim Befanis John Picucci Phill Greenland Karen Moy	Michael Gabrielsen Jack O'Brien	Bishop Katrina Foster and her staff. For those who would dare to bring peace. For the President and his administration. Communities of Faith in & around Croton. For refugees suffering in camps around the world. For food to feed all those who hunger.

Welcome to Our Saviour

Do you want to live life to its fullest? Do you want to have resources to cope with the challenges of life? Since his disciples first followed him, Jesus' teachings and example have been providing enduring answers for life's most troubling questions. Jesus' life was given for us. His life remains a gift to be received and God's Word through him waits to be heard. Come and see! The Lord is good!

Our Saviour is a safe, friendly, welcoming place for you and your family to hear Good News and find a warm, caring community. We welcome people of all races, ethnicities, political affiliations, sexual orientations and gender identities or expressions. We invite you to join us in any or all of the activities. Please ask any member for further details.

The Order of Worship is set out in this bulletin. You will also find a schedule of devotional readings and next Sunday's scripture set out inside the back cover.

HOLY COMMUNION: All are invited to the Lord's Table, as Jesus welcomed all without condition, to commune with Him. You need not be Lutheran or a church member. Young children may receive at their parents' discretion.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Welcome to Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. Justin Johnson, Pastor
Kyle Althof, Musician
Lee Ann McCarthy, Deacon

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am

Pastor's Office Hours: Mon & Tues: 9:30 - 11:30 am
Wed, Sat & Sun: by appointment; Thurs & Fri: Pastor is off

Church Office Phone: 914-271-4632 **Pastor's Phone:** 914-863-1601

<http://www.oursaviourcroton.org>

Portions of this bulletin are reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, copyright © 2006.
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress Publishers.

ONE LICENCE number: 731276-A

