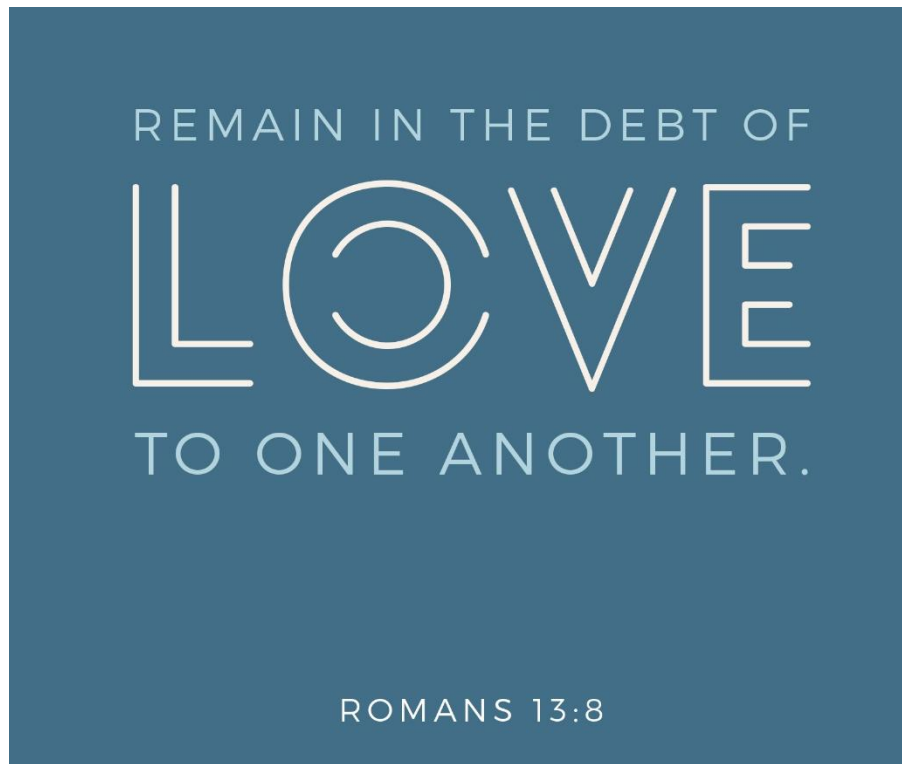


Gracious Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church



Sunday, September 6, 2026

19484 James Couzens Fwy.
Detroit, MI 48235
313-342-4950

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Doshia Strong, Licensed Lay Minister

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 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Call to Worship

Will of God

Tan pg. 51 Order A

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.

Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Let your good spirit lead me on a level path.

Our steps are made firm by the Lord, when he delights in our way;

Though we stumble, we shall not fall headlong, for the Lord holds us by the hand.

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

There is a way that seems right to a person, but its end is the way to death.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.

In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Opening Hymn

So Glad I'm Here

Tan #305

Prayer of the Day

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.

First Reading – Ezekiel 33:7-11

Barbara Crews

⁷ “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸ When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. ⁹ But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved. ¹⁰ “Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?”’ ¹¹ Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’

Responsive Reading – Psalm 119:33-40

- ³³ Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees,
that I may follow it to the end.
- ³⁴ **Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law
and obey it with all my heart.**
- ³⁵ Direct me in the path of your commands,
for there I find delight.
- ³⁶ **Turn my heart toward your statutes
and not toward selfish gain.**
- ³⁷ Turn my eyes away from worthless things;
preserve my life according to your word.
- ³⁸ **Fulfill your promise to your servant,
so that you may be feared.**
- ³⁹ Take away the disgrace I dread,
for your laws are good.
- ⁴⁰ **How I long for your precepts!
In your righteousness preserve my life.**

Second Reading – Romans 13:8-14

Barbara Crews

⁸ Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others 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 whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. ¹¹ And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴ Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

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 18:15-20. **Glory to you O Lord!**

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or 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 that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

Devotional Music

Come, Ye Disconsolate

Tan #421

Sermon.....Minister Doshia Strong

Hymn of the Day

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Tan #435

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: Merciful God,

Congregation response: receive our prayer.

Announcements

Offertory Hymn

Offertory Prayer: God of goodness and growth, **all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

Tan #686

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. Send us now to spread your generosity throughout all the world. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Benediction

“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” **Amen.**

Closing Hymn**As You Go, Tell the World****Tan #633**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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 TO EVERYONE CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH!! God bless you and enjoy your day!!

Council Meeting

Council meeting is on **Tuesday, September 8th, at 6:30pm on Zoom**. The link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85253404622?pwd=YnN2WVFTQjZoK3pta2JOb2F6UW1SZz09>. Meeting ID: 85253404622 Passcode: 087661

Choir Rehearsal

United Voices of Praise will begin rehearsing on Thursday, September 10th at 5:30 p.m.

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, September 17, 2026**. People can call the food pantry line at 313-634-1311.

65th Church Anniversary

We will celebrate our 65th Church Anniversary on **Sunday, September 27th!** Our theme: **“Enduring Love, Eternal Foundation,”** Song of Solomon 8:7a. We give thanks to God for 65 years of worship, ministry, fellowship, and faithful service to our congregation and community. Please join us as we honor the Lord's blessings, remember our history, and look forward with hope to the work God continues to do through Gracious Saviour. Rev. Dr. Tony Henderson will be our guest preacher. A fellowship dinner will follow Morning Worship.

Tithes and Offering

Ways to give –

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