

# Gracious Saviour Lutheran Church



Sunday, October 25, 2026

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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.*

## **Reformation Sunday**

### **Call to Worship**

### **Reformation Sunday**

Almighty God, by your holy word, all that we know has come into existence: our universe, our world, our lives, our loved ones, and all that we have and hold so dear. By your holy word, you sent forth your Son to bring us salvation through the cross of death and resurrection. By your holy word, you have called us together to be a Church of love and service in the world. By your holy word, we know that we live in grace and hope. Keep us ever close to your word, that it might be written upon our hearts.

**We commit our lives to your word, O God.**

Help us to grow in faith and love toward you, so that we might always live in trust and hope.

**We commit our lives to your word, O God.**

Center us in routines that keep us close to you, O Lord. Center us in weekly worship.

**We commit our lives to your word, O God.**

Center us in daily prayer.

**We commit our lives to your word, O God.**

Center us in knowledge of holy scripture.

**We commit our lives to your word, O God.**

Center us in the mission of the church.

**We commit our lives to your word, O God.**

Center us in lives of thankful giving and loving for all the blessings which you have bestowed upon us.

**We commit our lives to your word, O God.**

**By your word, O Lord, guide our lives, forgive our sins, inspire our thoughts, shape our attitudes, lighten our darkness, give us eternal hope, and fill our hearts with joy, assuring us of your constant presence, until you bring us at last into the glories of your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Opening Hymn**

**Victory is Mine**

**Tan #489**

### **Prayer of the Day**

**Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **First Reading – Jeremiah 31:31-34**

**Don Johnson**

<sup>31</sup> “The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup> “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

### **Responsive Reading – Psalm 46**

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup> **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way  
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,**

<sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam  
and the mountains quake with their surging.

<sup>4</sup> **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy place where the Most High dwells.**

<sup>5</sup> God is within her, she will not fall;  
God will help her at break of day.

**<sup>6</sup> Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;  
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD Almighty is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**<sup>8</sup> Come and see what the LORD has done,  
the desolations he has brought on the earth.**

<sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease  
to the ends of the earth.  
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.

**<sup>10</sup> He says, “Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth.”**

<sup>11</sup> The LORD Almighty is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

## **Second Reading – Romans 3:19-28**

**Don Johnson**

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup> Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. <sup>21</sup> But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup> God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— <sup>26</sup> he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. <sup>27</sup> Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. <sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

## **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 John 8:31-36. **Glory to you O Lord!**

<sup>31</sup> To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” <sup>33</sup> They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

**Devotional Music**

**Just as I Am**

**Tan #345**

**Sermon.....Minister Doshia Strong**

**Hymn of the Day**

**My Faith Looks Up to Thee**

**Tan #456**

### **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:** Let us pray. **God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

### **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**

**Take the Name of Jesus with You**

**Tan #297**

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!!

### **Christmas Concert Rehearsals**

United Voices of Praise will rehearse on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.  
Handbell Choir will rehearse on Saturdays at Noon beginning 10/31.

### **Sunday School**

Attend Sunday School in-person or online. Adult Sunday School will move to a hybrid model beginning next Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

### **Monthly Food Pantry**

The Gracious Saviour Community Food Pantry is open the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month from 11am – 1pm. The next food pantry day is **Thursday, November 5, 2026**. People can call the food pantry line at 313-634-1311.

### **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