

Gracious Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church



Sunday, September 13, 2026

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

www.gracioussaviourlutheran.org
gracioussaviourlutheran@gmail.com

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 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Call to Worship

Reconciliation

Tan Hymnal pg. 43, Order B

Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?”

Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you,

Leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you;

But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another,

Tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;

That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things... by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Opening Hymn

Come and Go with Me

Tan #596

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.

First Reading – Genesis 50:15-21

Anesha Hamlin

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷ 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept. ¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said. ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

Responsive Reading – Psalm 103:1-7

¹ Praise the Lord, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
² **Praise the Lord, my soul,**
and forget not all his benefits—
³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
⁴ **who redeems your life from the pit**
and crowns you with love and compassion,
⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
⁶ **The Lord works righteousness**
and justice for all the oppressed.
⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the people of Israel:

Second Reading – Romans 14:1-12

Anesha Hamlin

¹Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. ²One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. ³The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. ⁴Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. ⁶Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. ⁸If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. ⁹For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. ¹¹It is written: "'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.'" ¹²So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

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 18:21-35. **Glory to you O Lord!**

²¹Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" ²²Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. ²³"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. ²⁶"At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. ²⁸"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay

back what you owe me!’ he demanded. ²⁹ “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’ ³⁰ “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. ³² “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. ³⁵ “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Devotional Music

Bless the Lord

Tan #105

Sermon.....Minister Doshia Strong

Hymn of the Day

Blessed Assurance

Tan #508

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 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

What a Mighty God We Serve

Tan #478

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!!

Choir Rehearsal

United Voices of Praise will rehearse on Thursdays 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