

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 30, 2026

MISSION STATEMENT

To reflect God's love through caring service to our church, the community, and the world.

WELCOME STATEMENT

We welcome and encourage the full participation of all people, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, appearance, or anything else that threatens to divide us. We have all been claimed as God's children, and all are welcome here.

"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

-Galatians 3:28

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Presiding Minister—Pastor Anne Andert

Musician—Jan Knutson

AV Assistant—Milton Dodson

Assisting Minister—George Lisensky

Communion Assistants—Erin and Jason Parker

Communion Prep—Erin Parker

Lector—Callie Parker

Greeters—TBD

Ushers—Jon, Megan, and Drew Nelson

INTRODUCTION

In our second reading today, Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

In today's gospel, after Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God", Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

GATHERING

For personal prayer, you may find it helpful to turn to pages 72-87 (in the front of the hymnal).

PRELUDE

Please take a moment to fill out the yellow worship card, which will be collected during the gathering hymn.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

With "noisy offering" for Kids Against Hunger.

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Congregation: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Bind Us Together—WOV 748

REFRAIN

Bind us to-gether. Lord, bind us to-gether with cords that can-not be
bro-ken. Bind us to-gether. Lord, bind us to-
gether. Lord; bind us to-gether in love. 1. There is
2. You are the
on-ly one God, fam-ly of God, There is on-ly one King,
You are the prom-ise di-vine. —
There is on-ly one Bod-y; You are God's chos-en de-sire.
that you are the why we can sing; you are the glo-rious new wine. *to refrain*

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GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray. O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

PSALM 26:1-8

L: We read Psalm 26 responsively:

¹ Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;

I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O LORD, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes;

I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers;

I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸ **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

SECOND LESSON: Romans 12:1-8

L: A reading from Romans.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰
love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing
honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹²

Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³

Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵

Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in
harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the
lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone

evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it
is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹

Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of
God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰
Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give
them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals
on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with
good.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah—ELW 172



GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON *There Must Be Another Way* Pastor Anne Andert
Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Spirit, Open My Heart—ACS 1043

Refrain



Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of
liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

Refrain

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

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APOSTLES' CREED

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

You may be seated for the prayers.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

A: Good and gracious God, we give you thanks for this day and your presence in it and with us in all that we do. Whatever we do, let it be done from a place of love. For it is written, Do not be overcome by evil,

C: but overcome evil with good. (Romans 12:21)

A: We pray for the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up your cross and follow you in faith. For you said, "If anyone wish to come after me,

C: let them deny themselves, and take up their cross and follow me." (Matthew 16:24)

A: Creator God, we pray for our troubled world. From the fires and storms that rage, to the brokenness of our systems, institutions, and hearts, it is easy to lose hope. Let us know with certainty that you are with us. For it is written, "Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction;

C: persevere in prayer. (Romans 12:12)

A: God of justice and mercy, we pray for the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of all who work to bring peace to a world scarred by violence. For it is written, "Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction;

C: persevere in prayer.

A: For this congregation gathered here to serve you, that we would remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our board, our committees, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. We continue to pray for the next pastor called here, that you would be preparing their heart to love and serve your people at Our Savior's.

C: Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good. (Romans 12:1)

P: You who are the Great Physician, we pray for all who are struggling in body, mind, or spirit. You know their whole story, and we pray that your hand of healing would rest on them. Hear the names of those we whisper before you in these walls that have known so many prayers. (pause) We pray that our hearts can rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction;

C: Persevere in prayer.

P: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the strong name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

MEAL

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **and also with you.**

*Please greet one another, as you feel comfortable, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

Please be seated.

OFFERING

For online giving, simply scan QR code:

Offering is received as ushers pass the plate down each row. As we sing the Offertory, ushers bring offering forward.



OFFERTORY

Offertory

Brian Knutson, soloist

John Ness Beck

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING

As the Grains of Wheat

REFRAIN

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in-to one to be-come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre-a-tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain
Refrain

Lead music: Mike Dugan © 1999 GIA Publications, Inc.
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OFFERING PRAYER

A: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

**C: 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Receive who you are;
Become what you've received:
The body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive Communion. The bread is given first, then select either a small cup of red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available; please ask the server. Empty cups are placed in the basket. Children may come forward for a blessing.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING ✠

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray... Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION ✚

SENDING HYMN

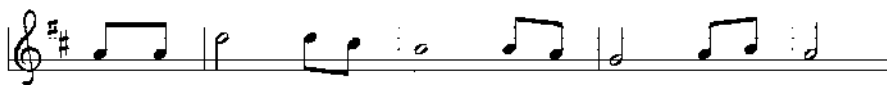
Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song—ELW 808



1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney:
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney:



I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go;
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you,
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears,
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood,
And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,



Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

Text: Les Petites Sœurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community; © Stephen Santavirta, b. 1931
Music: L'Arche, 1971 © Les Petites Sœurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community
Text and music © 1987 Les Petites Sœurs de Jésus
Text © 1970 Stephen Santavirta
Music, text, tr. ad libit. Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

A: People of God, go in peace,

C: to do justice,

love kindness,

and to walk humbly with our God. (*Micah 6:8*)

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Next Sunday, **September 6**, during Coffee Hour, we will celebrate Bob Pederson's 102 birthday.

YOUNG @ HEART

Join us for fellowship and lunch on **Thursday, September 10, from 12:00–2:00 pm**. We'll enjoy burgers, brats, and sides, followed by a special presentation about **Wisconsin** by Merla Bussan and Julie Rath. Please sign up on the sheet located on the counter in the Commons by **Sunday, September 6**, so we can plan accordingly.

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS. — SEPTEMBER 13

Join us as we partner with neighboring Beloit congregations—St. Paul Lutheran, Faith Lutheran, San José, and United Church—as well as Scout Troop 608. **We need lots of hands to make 15,000 meals!** This fun, intergenerational project is a wonderful way to serve together and make a real difference. We'll conclude with a simple lunch provided through a Thrivent Action Team. Come share your time, your hands, and God's love!

RALLY DAY

Kick-off for the 2026-2027 season is **Sunday, September 13!** We will have our bouncy house open and outdoor games (weather permitting!) from 9:30-10:15 am. After the church service, all the children are invited to throw a pie a Miss Molly and then, the children are encouraged to participate in the meal packaging for Kids Against Hunger, beginning at 10:45 am.

Please register your children for the 2026-2027 season at www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/families.

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

Will be held **Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17** this year! It's time to start collecting all those household treasures and jewelry (no clothing, please) for our annual sale!

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVESTREAMED

Catch Sunday services (9:30 am) on YouTube.
Links and bulletins: oursaviorsbeloitwi.org/worship.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday	August 30	9:30am 10:30am 1:00pm	Worship Coffee Hour Televised Worship (Ch. 992)
Monday	August 31	8:30am 2:00pm	Sewing Bee Care Team
Tuesday	September 1	6:30pm	Anna Circle
Wednesday	September 2	9:00am 5:00pm	Men's Group (Riverside) Televised Worship (Ch. 992)
Thursday	September 3	6:00pm	OA
Sunday	September 6	9:30am 10:30am 1:00pm	Worship Coffee Hour Televised Worship (Ch. 992)
Monday	September 7		Office Closed

Altar Flowers are given today in celebration of Jean and John Lincoln's 50th Anniversary on August 28.

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Our Savior's Lutheran Church will occasionally take photographs and video of church activities, which may be used online, and in digital and print materials. Additionally, worship services are recorded, livestreamed, and broadcast on a weekly basis. By participating, authorization to publish any such photo or video is granted to Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT OUR SAVIOR'S

It is a joy to have you join us for worship. Wherever you are from, wherever you are in life or on your faith journey, we are glad you are here. Please fill out a yellow worship card for attendance and prayer requests.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

We have large print bulletins and hearing enhancers for anyone who may need them, please see an usher for assistance.

SCRIPTURE

You may want to prepare for next Sunday by studying the scriptures.

- Ezekiel 33:7-11
- Psalm 119:33-40
- Romans 13:8-14
- Matthew 18:15-20

STAY CONNECTED

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www.oursaviorsbeloitwi.org



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@oursaviorsbeloit

ONLINE GIVING ►



God's work.
Our hands.
SEPTEMBER 13

Let's work together to
package 15,000 meals!



Kids Against Hunger.

ROCK COUNTY ROTARY, INC.
Local people making a world of difference.

Kids Against Hunger is a cooperative effort of the Beloit, Edgerton, and Janesville Rotary Clubs.

