

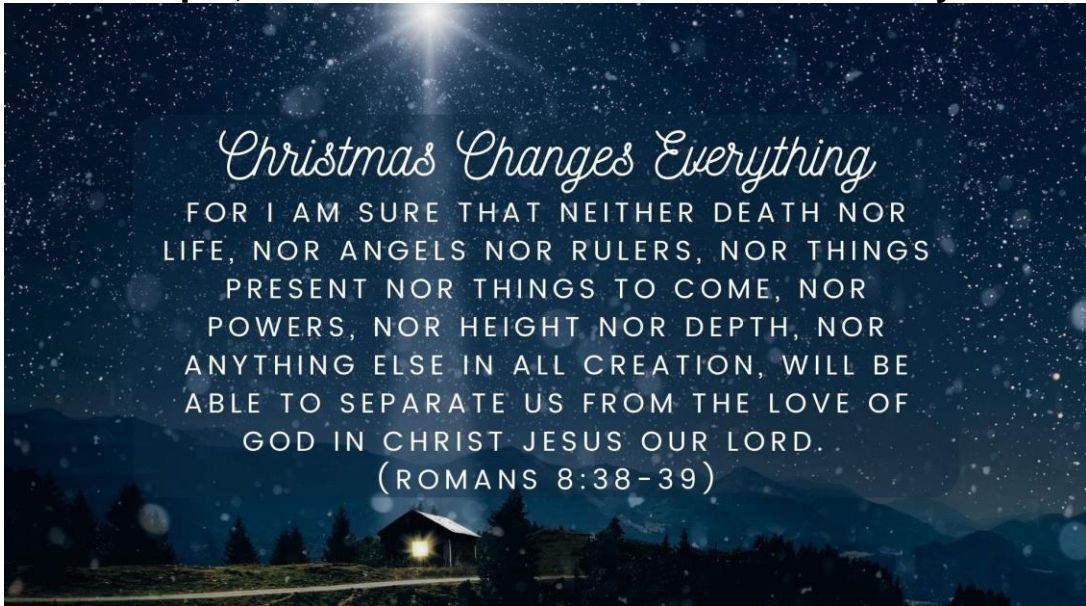
THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

July 30, 2023

10:00 a.m.

"The Mission of Beautiful Savior is to "Serve the Lord, extend the Gospel, and make Jesus alive in the community."



Born So We Belong

AS WE GATHER

"All things work together for good," today's Epistle proclaims, "for those who love God" (Romans 8:28). That means us! But how does it happen that we love God? God predestined, called, justified, and glorified us, all because He loves us. He loved us so much that He "did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all" (Romans 8:32). By faith we are part of God's people. By the grace of God, the Kingdom has been revealed to us like discovered treasure in a field or a pearl of great price, as Jesus teaches in two parables in the Gospel. Although as sinner-saints we may not perfectly endure tribulation, distress, and

persecution, on the Last Day, by grace we shall be considered righteous because of all that God has done for us.

PRELUDE

“Gesù Bambino”-Pietro Yon

PASTORAL WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, nothing is for naught before your eyes. Should great difficulty come upon us, we believe that blessings will eventually come from the apparent ruins of our lives. When we look back on the hardships of life, we marvel how unexpected good has come from such apparent setbacks and disappointments. Lord, remove any heaviness of heart that might weigh upon us today and deepen within us the assurance that ultimately all will be well because you are God. Lord as we wait for you to come and call us back to your side, help us to see in the manger that you come among us, and you send your spirit so that we are never alone. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” **LSB #379, v. 1–4**

**1 O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him
Born the king of angels: Refrain**

**Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

**2 Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes; Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain**

**3 Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God
In the highest: Refrain**

**4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore, You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

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INTROIT (*Speak responsively*)

Psalm 105:2–6; antiphon: v. 1

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

KYRIE (Sing)

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C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (Sing)

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**C To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high—**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,**

In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 7:6–9

⁶"You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

Romans 8:28–39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Mary’s Boy Child” -Jester Hairston

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *(Sing)*

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C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

C These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

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C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and Earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” **LSB #366, v. 1-4**

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of
gold: “Peace on the earth, goodwill to all, From heav’n’s
all-gracious king.” The world in solemn stillness lay To hear
the angels sing.**
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled, And still their heav’nly music
floats O’er all the weary world. Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov’ring wing, And ever o’er its babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.**
- 3 All you, beneath your heavy load, By care and guilt bent low,
Who toil along a dreary way With painful steps and slow:
Look up, for golden is the hour, Come swiftly on the wing,
The Prince was born to bring you peace;
Of Him the angels sing.**
- 4 For lo, the days have come to pass By prophets seen of old,
When down into the circling years Came Christ as was foretold.
His word of peace shall to the earth God’s ancient promise
bring, And all who take this gift will hear The song the angels
sing.**

SERMON

(Romans 8:28-39)

"For I am Sure that Christmas Changes Everything, Even In July!"

OFFERTORY

"The First Noel"-Wilbur Held

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(Congregation response to petitions: **Hear our prayer**)*

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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PREFACE

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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 Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

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C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER *(Spoken)*

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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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for

the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

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P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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C O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION 1) “What Child Is This” **LSB #370, v.1-3**

- 1** What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!
- 2** Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!
- 3** So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

2) "Silent Night, Holy Night" LSB #363, v. 1-3

- 1 Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and
mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.**
- 2 Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**
- 3 Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming
grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

NUNC DIMITTIS

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**C O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION

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P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Joy to the World” **LSB #387, v.1-4**

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev’ry heart prepare Him room And heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n and nature sing, And heav’n, and heav’n and
nature sing.**
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs
employ, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the
ground; He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.**
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations
Prove The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**“Why do we do, that?” Every Sunday through Labor Day Weekend,
join us every Sunday morning at 8:30am. This is your chance to
ask any questions you have about Beautiful Savior, about
Christianity, about Lutheranism, about our beliefs or our**

practices. You can email all questions ahead of time to Pastor Tim at: PastorTimAnderson@gmail.com you can also submit them in the basket next to LWML mite box in the narthex.

Christmas In July Party: Sun. July 30th after worship. Santa seems to have his wires crossed or we just really like celebrating the birth of Jesus at Beautiful Savior. Either way, Join us on Sunday July 30th for a Christmas in July celebration. We will do a white elephant gift exchange and make summer versions of some of our favorite holiday potluck dishes. **Bring a dish, bring a gift and let's have a great time together.** Enjoy some frozen Hot Chocolate, Christmas cookies and more. Gifts should be valued at no more than \$15-\$20 dollars.

Women's Weekly Bible Study will be offered once per week on Mondays at noon. All Beautiful Savior women and friends are welcome to attend! July 31st on

Join us on August 5th at 5pm for our next "Chosen Night". We will be watching Season 1 Episode 6, "Indescribable Compassion" Please note, that due to such a positive response, we are now hosting chosen nights 2x a month. Also, we are now looking for dinner hosts to host our meal when we meet for "Chosen Nights." If interested, please sign up with Pastor Tim.

Voter's Assembly Meeting is changed to August 6th after worship.

Aug 22nd 2023: Pizza and Pipes at Organ Stop Pizza. Join us for a night of Food, Fellowship, Fun and the ORGAN!!! Music begins at 4:30pm and we encourage you to come when you can. A Sign-up sheet is in the narthex/hallway. If we have at least 20 sign-up, we can reserve a table. Need transportation? Talk to Ellen Brown or Pastor Tim. We hope to have Rides available.

Sept 10th 2023 at 11:00am. A Grand Legacy Of Faith Celebration: Join us after church on Sept 10th as we celebrate

Grandparents Day here at Beautiful Savior. We will honor our grandparents and encourage you to bring pictures and stories of your grandma's and grandpa's and share how they have inspired you and your faith. We also encourage you to bring a grandkid to church or anyone you have a mentoring relationship with. We will play generation trivia and try to better understand each generation as we continue to pass on the faith.

2023 Beautiful Savior T-Shirts.

**Beautiful
Savior
2023 Church
T-Shirt**

Represent Beautiful Savior
out in the community and
during our church events.
Shirts are \$20 per shirt.



We are in the process of ordering our 2023 Beautiful Savior T-shirts to have for our church events and also just to wear out in the community. If you would like to order a shirt please write 2023 T-shirt on the memo line of a check or place cash in an envelope labeled 2023 t-shirts. Shirts are \$20 per shirt and we will be placing our first shirt order on Sept. 1st.

Planet Green recycle container is in the fellowship hall by the thermostats.

Fellowship Hour: If you would like to bring something in to share during fellowship, please sign your name on the date you would like. The schedule is on the fellowship board. Questions, talk to Pastor Tim.

Church Members and others who wish to “give electronically” can now do so by going to: easytithe.com/BSLCTempe. On the giving page, click on "Fund" and select the appropriate fund from the drop-down list. The funds are: General Budget, LWML, Missions, Air Conditioners, La Mesa & Staff Continuing Education.

POSTLUDE Improvisation on “Angels We Have Heard On High”

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
1337 W. 11th St, Tempe, AZ 85281-5398
Office 480-967-2660 Second Line 480-967-2686
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m-12:30 p.m.
WEB: www.beautifulsaviortempe.org
Email for BSLC: office@beautifulsaviortempe.org

SERVING US AT WORSHIP TODAY:

Officiant Preacher:	Pastor Tim Anderson
Organist/Dir. of Music:	Ellen Brown
Song Leader:	Donna Evans
Special Music:	The Beautiful Savior Singers
Lector Reader:	Charles Haynes
Assisting Elder:	Don Calendar
Greeter:	Kathy Held
Acolyte:	Joe Carlin
Altar:	Pat Carlin

Visitors, please sign (with a complete address) our **Guest Book** on the podium in the entryway before you leave and/or complete a **grey/cream “Worship Information” card** found in the pew in front of you. Members are also encouraged to complete a “Worship Information” card (you can update address and phone number, request a pastoral visit)

Pastor Tim's Office Hours: Pastor Tim is available Monday through Thursday, 10am - 3pm as well as by appointment. Cell phone #480-536-2256.

WE CAN ASSIST THOSE UNABLE TO HEAR WELL...We have 3 cordless headsets available to use in the pews. Just let an usher know and they will be happy to bring you one.

Attendance for week: 7-23-23 Bible Study—11; Worship Service—30; 7-24-2023 Women's Bible Study—6; 7-27-2023 Brunch & Bibles Midweek Bible Study—12.

Income report for 7-23-23: Loose Plate \$40; Weekly Envelopes \$860; Designated Gifts \$49; Other \$2000; Total \$2949.

THIS WEEK AT BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

July 30, Sunday

8:30 AM Adult Bible Study

9:30 AM Music Rehearsal

9:30 AM Stewardship Committee Meeting

10 AM The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost w/Holy Communion

(Also, being streamed on Facebook online)

July 31, Monday

12 PM Women's Bible Study

August 3, Thursday

4-7 PM La Mesa

August 4, Friday

9 AM-11 AM Church Offices Cleaned

August 5, Saturday

5 PM Chosen Movie Night & dinner

August 6, Sunday

10 AM The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship w/Holy Communion

After worship: Voter's Assembly Meeting

Prayer List: We pray for strength, comfort and healing for:

Jeanne Wilson, Susan, Pastor John Pope, Ruth, Jane Mascia, Analisa Duran, Walter Hurley, Jeanne Wilson, Connie Laird, Kathryn Odle, Phyllis Schinke, Lincoln, Vicki, Nancy, Tom & Amina Kruck, Pat Carlin, Wendy Sievers, Glenn Brown, Mike, Bev Dase, Brenda; Jan Buel, Beth

Ruettinger, Warren and Cheryl,; Doris Reith, Len Lacy, Mark. Deb and Doug Bergman, traveling.

FOR AT HOME WORSHIPERS WHO MAY VIEW SERVICES ONLINE. INSTRUCTIONS ARE BELOW:

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE YOU CAN GO ONLINE & VIEW AT

1) Open a webpage browser (internet explorer, chrome, Firefox, etc.)

2) Type or paste the following link into your address bar:

www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranChurchTempe/

3) Option 1 - Scroll until you find a post that shows a “Live” feed titled for the Sunday service, or

4) Option 2 - Click on the “Videos” button on the left-hand sidebar (ignore anything asking you to sign up or sign in to Facebook)

5) Look for the video titled for the date of the Sunday service. Video stream will be live starting at or around 10am. If it does not show up, try refreshing the page. The video of the service will remain on the page if you would like to view it at a later time, or to replay it again at your discretion.

Lutheran Hour Broadcast - KFAX RADIO (1100) @ 10 AM

"If It Seems Slow, Wait for It" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Some ideas spread slowly. That doesn't make them bad ideas. Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about God's slow solution to setting a broken world right. (Habakkuk 2:3 and Romans 10:9)



HOLY COMMUNION. . .OUR UNDERSTANDING

It is the special joy of the baptized and instructed Christian to celebrate Christ in our very midst with the Sacrament of the Altar (Holy Communion). The Scripture clearly and carefully teaches that, in Holy Communion, the very Body and the very Blood of our Lord Jesus are really present in, with, and under the forms of bread and wine. It also teaches that "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord (acknowledging the Real Presence of Jesus with the elements) eats and drinks judgment on himself." (I Corinthians 11:28-29).

Communicants, then, are rightfully prepared and "worthy" when they:

- *are truly penitent of their sins;*
- *even now embrace Jesus as their Savior and recognize His Real Presence in the bread and the wine; and*
- *seek to amend their sinful lives, with the assistance of this Meal and the power of the Holy Spirit.*

If you have any further questions, please speak with the Pastor before the service.

Other notes on the distribution of Holy Communion:

- *1) Wine is the Biblical standard for all communicants. However, grape juice is in some glasses and available in the center of each tray for those who have an intolerance to alcohol.*
- *2) The Blood of Christ, in, with and under the wine, is served in individual glasses.*

3) Children and adults not instructed or confirmed are still encouraged to approach The Table to receive a blessing.