

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

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Find us on Facebook



October 4, 2020

Welcome to worship at Our Savior's Lutheran!

We are blessed to have you join us. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to become a part of the Our Savior's community.

TODAY'S FOCUS

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

GATHERING

WELCOME

SEASON OF CREATION (Written by Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.)

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. Psalm 19:7

In the story of creation God provided a paradise. All of creation was in balance and was a delight. And God set clear boundaries so that balance could be maintained and all created things could flourish. These boundaries provided definition that made possible the amazing diversity of the created world. Far from being a constraint, these boundaries provided freedom and, paradoxically, real connection. But humankind rebelled and continues to rebel. It is almost as if we view boundaries as an offense and limits as an affront. Creation is ours to use! But that denies the truth that we have this one earth and this one temporal life. As I write this, we are living in a pandemic. The coronavirus that causes COVID-19 has spread throughout the world, bringing sickness and death. Viruses are strange creatures. They have no nucleus or membrane; they are unable to differentiate like normal healthy cells and are completely dependent on a host cell to survive. They will use up that cell even if it means the death of the host. So God, through the law, gave us the gift of limits. God is God and we are not. We are responsible to each other. Our actions have consequences. We are not to live as membrane-less viruses. The law of the Lord is perfect, sure, right, clear, pure and true. It brings wisdom, rejoicing, enlightenment and righteousness.

**Creator God, help us to accept your boundaries so that all created things can flourish.
Amen**

Gathering Song Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW 726

- 1 Light dawns on a weary world
when eyes begin to see
all people's dignity.
Light dawns on a weary world:
the promised day of justice comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands;
the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy,
and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

- 2 Love grows in a weary world
when hungry hearts find bread
and children's dreams are fed.
Love grows in a weary world:
the promised feast of plenty comes. *Refrain*
- 3 Hope blooms in a weary world
when creatures, once forlorn,
find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world:
the promised green of Eden comes. *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

- P:** Let us pray.
- C:** **Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "wild grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

L: Word of God, word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:7-15

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁸You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.

⁹You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

¹¹You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

¹²Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

¹³The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;

¹⁵behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

L: Word of God, word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 21st Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and

get his inheritance.’³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?’

⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature^[a] God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature^[b] of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

Do Everything Without Grumbling

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (See end of bulletin)

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING Thank You for your continued support!

OFFERTORY SONG As the Grains of Wheat ELW 465

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

- 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*
- 2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain*

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WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Prayer after Communion

P: We give you thanks, gracious God,

C: that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

SENDING

TIME OF SHARING

BLESSING

P: Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Bind Us Together

Refrain

Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken
Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together
Bind us together in Love

1. There is only one God,
There is only one King
There is only one Body,
That is why we sing. *Refrain*
2. We are the family of God
We are the promise divine
We are God's chosen desire
We are the glorious new wine. *Refrain*

Text: Brian Wren b. 1936. Music tune: arr. Caroly Jennings b. 1936 Text 1983 Hope Publishing Co. Arr 1995 Augsburg Fortress
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DISMISSAL: P: Go in peace. Remember the poor. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. (*A brief silence.*)

Holy God, you call us to work for peace and justice in your vineyard. Refresh the church with your life, that we may bear fruit through work and service. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thank you for the abundant harvest of the earth. Bless and care for those whose hands bring the fruits of the earth to the tables of all who hunger. May we be inspired by your servants who cared deeply for your creation (*especially Francis of Assisi, whom we commemorate today*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Curb the impulses of greed and pride that lead us to take advantage of others. Grant that world leaders (*especially*) seek the fruits of the kingdom for the good and welfare of all people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sustain all who suffer with the promise of new life. Assured of your presence, heal our pain and suffering, and equip us to embrace all bodies aching for wholeness of mind, body, and soul. We call to mind those who are struggling today (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all managers in our community and for all who seek employment. Give hope and a future to those who lack meaningful work, those who have been marginalized or abused in the workplace, and those who desire new opportunities. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thank you for the saints who teach us to live faithfully in your vineyard. May our chorus join theirs until our labor is complete. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

"CALLED TO WORSHIP, SENT FORTH TO SERVE"

Pastor:	Pastor Carol Braun	osl@cheqnet.net
Secretary:	Evelyn Pamer	ossec@cheqnet.net
Musicians	Linda Hultman/Patty Lehman/Kathy Rewalt	
	Outdoor Worship Ray Levine	
Lector	Karlan Williams	
Recording Technician	Dick Rewalt	



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STAFF

Pastor Carol Braun
Linda Hultman, Keyboard
Patty Lehman, Keyboard
Evelyn Pamer, Secretary

October '20

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
4 Parking Lot Church 10 a.m. Iron River Community Center Worship Services available via YouTube Check your email for a link to our YouTube service.	5 7:00 Al-Anon	6 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS	7 9:30 Bible Study	8	9	10
11 Worship Services available via YouTube Check your email for a link to our YouTube service.	12 10:00 WELCA Bible Study 7:00 Al-Anon	13 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS 6:00 Council Meeting	14 9:30 Bible Study	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pastor Carol's Days</u> Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Secretary's Hours</u> Mon, Wed, Thur. & Fri. 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</p>		

Next Week's Readings: Isa 25:1-9, Ps 23, Phil 3:4b-14, Matt 22:1-14

We will continue to stay in touch electronically by Email, Facebook and our website (ironriverlutherans.org) We are posting worship services on YouTube and are sending out regular mail for those who do not have electronic connections. Let us continue to keep in touch with one another by phone, text, and emails and continue to lift in prayer all who are being affected by this virus.



Ray Kangas, Lynette Smith, Lorin Wicklund, Rodney Lahti, Jane Jensen, Ken & Linda Watters, Jim DeRosia, Nancy Anderson, Gregg Levine, Darren Forsythe, Todd VanTil, Mark Hokkanen. *Remember those in nursing homes and assisted living who cannot have family, friends or volunteers visit them during this sad time.*

Sympathy to David and Debbie Christensen for the loss of Debbie's sister, Cindy Bennett.

Our Savior's would like to say farewell and thank-you to Doug and Nancy Thyberg, Doug and Nancy are moving to Kentucky to be closer to family. We are sad to see you go, but happy for this next step in your life's journey. Thank you both for all the extras you've done for Our Saviors. You will be greatly missed!

The Words in Season October- November- December Devotionals are available at the church for pick-up. They are by the front door to drive up and easily pick one up.

WELCA Bible Study Women's Bible Study will be held on Monday, October 12 at 10:00 am. We will be continuing the three part series on "Holy Time". Session two is about the holy "now" — recognizing and responding to God's *kairos* time. We will explore how the Scriptures speak to us about the holy now: how we recognize and respond to God's grace and calling in the present moment. Please plan to join us and bring your Gather magazine, bibles and a drink. Copies available at the session.



Connections with Creation

To produce good wine, a landowner must have grapevines that produce fruit with the right amount of sugar and ripeness. Two factors impact the production of good grapes: weather and soil health. Weather is beyond the grower's control, but an astute landowner will invest resources in soil health. The biblical authors often use the metaphors of landowner, vineyard, vine, and fruit to speak about a community's faithfulness or disobedience; the people are evaluated based on the evidence of their fruit. Good fruit comes from good soil, and good soil contains a diverse microbial community rich in nutrients and with the ability to absorb and retain water. Science is discovering more and more about this unseen and dynamic set of processes and relationships between fungi, bacteria, viruses, and crops that lead to the production of good fruit. In the faithful life, developing the personal and communal characteristics that lead to fruits of compassion, generosity, and joy requires paying attention to the movement of God's Spirit and the nurturing of mutually beneficial relationships within the body of Christ.

Are you leaving for warmer climates? Please make sure to Evelyn know if you are heading to your winter homes for the season. Evelyn and Pastor Carol cannot stress enough how important it is to have your correct contact information! Please keep us updated.

Thank you!!



Iron River Elementary Students Are Asking For Your Help For Their Shoe Fundraiser. They are collecting GENTLY WORN, NEW and USED SHOES of any size and kind. They get .40¢ a pound. Drop boxes are in the school lobby and Our Savior's Lutheran.