#### **Opening Hymn** When in Our Music God Is Glorified CW 628 sts. 1-4



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Tune: Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

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Stand

#### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **Organ Dedication**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, today we seek God's blessing as we gather with thankfulness to set apart this instrument to his glory. God has given us the gift of music, and to him we sound our praise.

Sing to the Lord, praise his name; **proclaim his salvation day after day.** 

Sing to the Lord a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts.

#### **Scripture Reading**

Revelation 5:6-14

Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people. And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they were saying: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped (Revelation 5:6-14).

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you dwell among angels who praise you continually and move our voices to sing salvation's new song. We thank you for the gift of music and for the way it stirs our minds and touches our hearts. In music you provide a glance into the perfection of paradise and a glimpse of the majesty of heaven. In music your servants recall for us the greatness of your love. In music you offer us a vehicle for our praise. Move those who make music on this instrument to offer their skills and talents to your praise and our blessing. Inspire us to add our voices to their art that we may proclaim the wonders of your grace in our psalms, hymns, and songs of the Spirit; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### **Dedication**

We, the members of Our Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church, dedicate this organ for the worship of God, the proclamation of the gospel, and the praise of his people in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 





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#### Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.







## The Word

#### **Salutation**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

#### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading Acts 9:36–42

<sup>36</sup> In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was always doing good deeds and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup> At that time she became sick and died. After they had washed her, they laid her in an upstairs room. <sup>38</sup> Since Lydda is near Joppa, when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, who urged him, "Come to us without delay!"

<sup>39</sup> Peter got up and went with them. When he arrived, they led him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing him the robes and clothing that Dorcas made while she was still with them.

<sup>40</sup> After Peter sent them all outside, he got down on his knees and prayed. Then he turned toward the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup> He gave her his hand and helped her stand up. After he called the saints and the widows, he presented her to them alive. <sup>42</sup> This became known all over Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



### Forever I Will Sing



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with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all gener-/ations.

I will declare that your love stands firm for-/ever,
that you have established your faithfulness in / heav'n itself.

The heavens praise your / wonders, LORD,
your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the / holy ones. Refrain
```

I will sing of the LORD's great love for- / ever;

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Who is like you, LORD God Al- / mighty?
You, LORD, are mighty, and your faithfulness sur- / rounds you.
Blessed are those who have learned to ac- / claim you,
who walk in the light of your / presence, LORD.
They rejoice in your name / all day long;
they celebrate your / righteousness.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain
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#### **Second Reading**

1 John 4:7-11,19-21

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> The one who does not love has not known God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> This is how God's love for us was revealed: God has sent his only-begotten Son into the world so that we may live through him. <sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, if God loved us so much, we also should love one another.

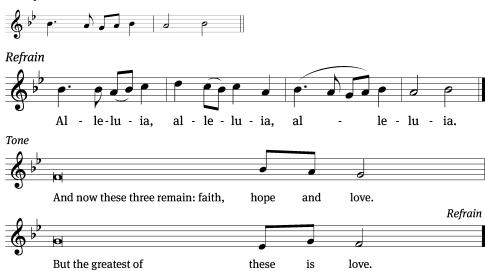
<sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> If anyone says, "I love God," but hates his brother, he is a liar. For how can anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, love God, whom he has not seen? <sup>21</sup> This then is the command we have from him: The one who loves God should also love his brother.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



1 Corinthians 13:13



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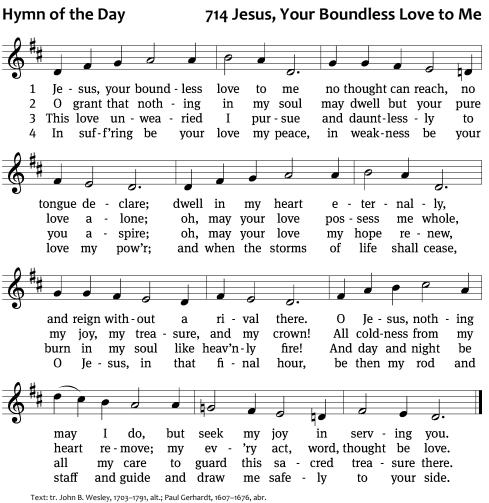
Gospel John 15:9–17

<sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, so also I have loved you. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you hold on to my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have held on to my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you these things so that my joy would continue to be in you and that your joy would be complete. <sup>12</sup> "This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than this: that someone lays down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you continue to do the things I instruct you. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because everything that I heard from my Father, I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will endure, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. <sup>17</sup> These things I am instructing you, so that you love one another.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated



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Sermon

1 John 4:7-11,19-21

# "Let Us Love One Another, Because Love Comes from God."

#### **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

#### **Prayer of the Church**

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, *[especially...]*. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again. **Amen.** 

#### **Sermon Hymn**

#### 471 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



Stand

#### Prayer for the Word

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### 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.

#### Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.** 

#### **Closing Hymn** 770 God of Grace and God of Glory sts. 1-2, 4 God of of grace and God glo - ry, on vour peo - ple 2 Lo, hosts vil the of e round us scorn the Christ, as -Save us from weak ig na - tion to the e - vils res Church's your pow'r; crown your cient sto pour an sail his From the fears that long have bound us ways. de plore: let the gift of vour sal we va - tion glo - rious flow'r. bring its bud to Grant us wis - dom, free our hearts faith and praise. Grant wis - dom. to us be glo ev - er - more. Grant wis - dom, our ry us for the fac - ing of this grant us cour age the liv - ing grant for of these us cour age you whom grant ing us cour age, serv we a this for the fac of hour. hour, ing days, liv of days. for the ing these whom dore. dore, a serv ing vou we

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#### Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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#### The R. T. Swanson Organ at Our Saviour Lutheran Church

The R. T. Swanson Organ at Our Saviour Lutheran Church was constructed at Mr. Swanson's workshop in Grand Ledge, Michigan, just west of Lansing. From his workshop Mr. Swanson has been helping churches both in Michigan and around the country, particularly ELS and WELS churches, obtain new and used pipe organs for many years. In addition, he has been in charge of rebuilding and refurbishing pipe organs and supplying them with temporary electronic organs to keep the music coming during the months of rebuilding. The former Allen organ from Our Saviour will next be serving in that capacity before its own refurbishment.

In more recent years, Richard Swanson has become part of the movement toward virtual pipe organs which are often the ideal solution for churches of our size.

The organ being dedicated for use at Our Saviour was designed and hand-built specifically for our church 2023 (the date on the organ) and 2024. This R. T. Swanson organ makes use of an incredibly advanced software system known as Hauptwerk. Hauptwerk loads the digitally sampled sets of all the individual pipes from famous pipe organs from around the world into its memory (one at a time) and plays the pipes' actual recorded sounds back as the organist presses the keys, reproducing the exact sound the original pipe organ makes when an organist is playing it.

Our organ currently has three different pipe organs the organist can choose from on any given Sunday. (More can be purchased over time and downloaded.) For our church, we made a special purchase of the 2010 Swiss-built pipe organ located at St. Anne's Church in Düren, North Rhine-Westphalia in Germany. This is the organ Sara Buelow is playing for our dedication today.