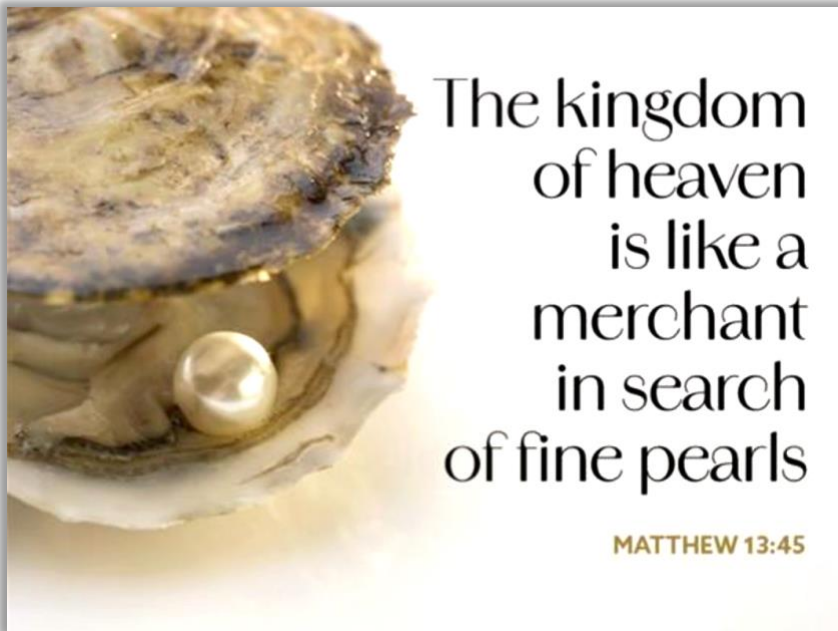


SUNDAY, July 26th

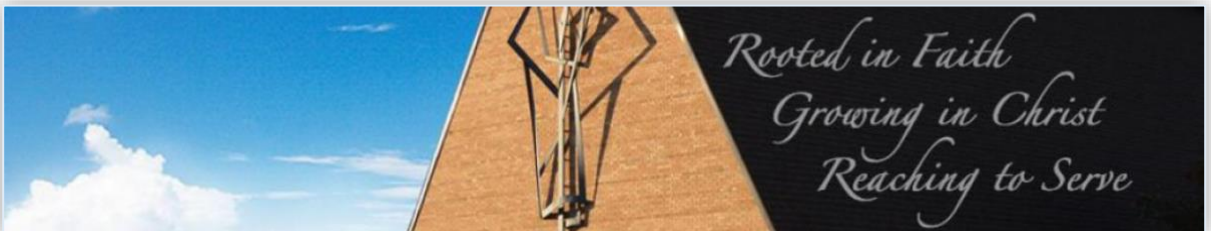
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Virginia, MN

Pastor Liz Cheney



PRELUDE

Mark Ongalo, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

Gather Us In

ELW# 532

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

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.

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. **Amen.**

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



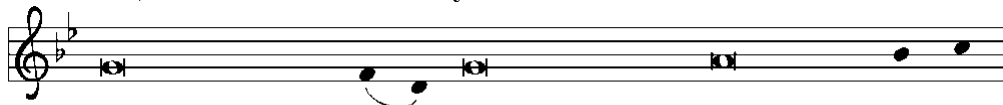
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



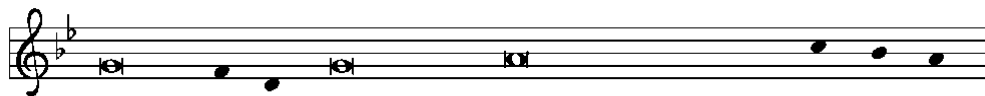
For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



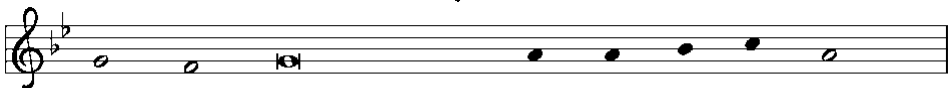
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

THIS IS THE FEAST



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of
all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING 1 Kings 3:5-12.

Lector, Chris Culbert

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶ And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.”

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 119:129-136. *Please respond with verses in bold print.*

- ¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
- ¹³⁰ **When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.**
- ¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant
because I long for your commandments.
- ¹³² **Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love your name.**
- ¹³³ Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
- ¹³⁴ **Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.**
- ¹³⁵ Let your face shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.
- ¹³⁶ **My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your teaching.**

SECOND READING Romans 8:26-39. *These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ.*

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

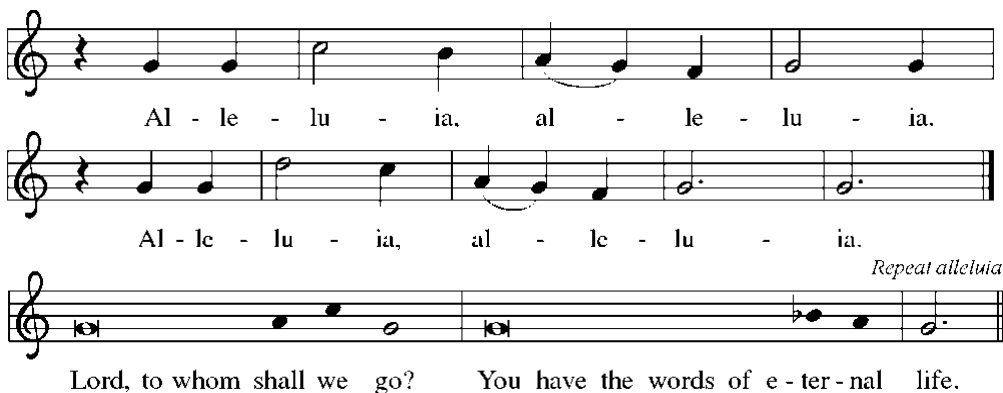
"For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced

that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor 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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52. The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!"

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; 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; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he 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 caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Please respond after each petition: (Pastor) "God of Grace," (Congregation) "hear our prayer,"

Concluding prayer: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING Thank you for your continued financial support of OSLC! Whether you join us in person or online, the ministry & missions of Our Savior's depend on faithful giving. You can give the following ways:

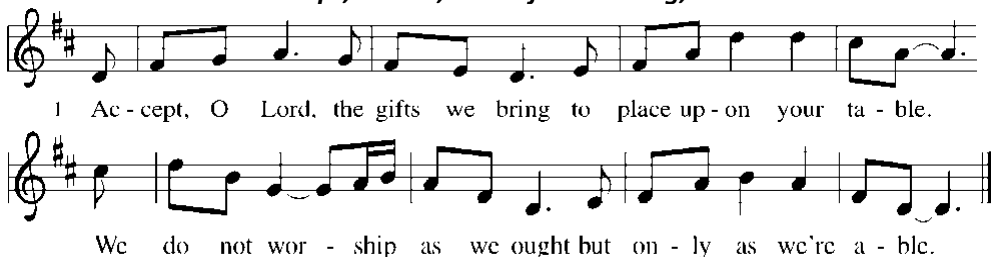
- + online links can be found by accessing our website at <https://www.oslcmn.com/>
- + Using the QR code found here:
- + Contacting the church office to set up regular automatic giving
- + Dropping off or mailing in your offering – *Thank you*



OFFERTORY

Accept, O Lord, The Gifts We Bring, Vs. #1

ELW# 691



OFFERING PRAYER 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. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise....

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

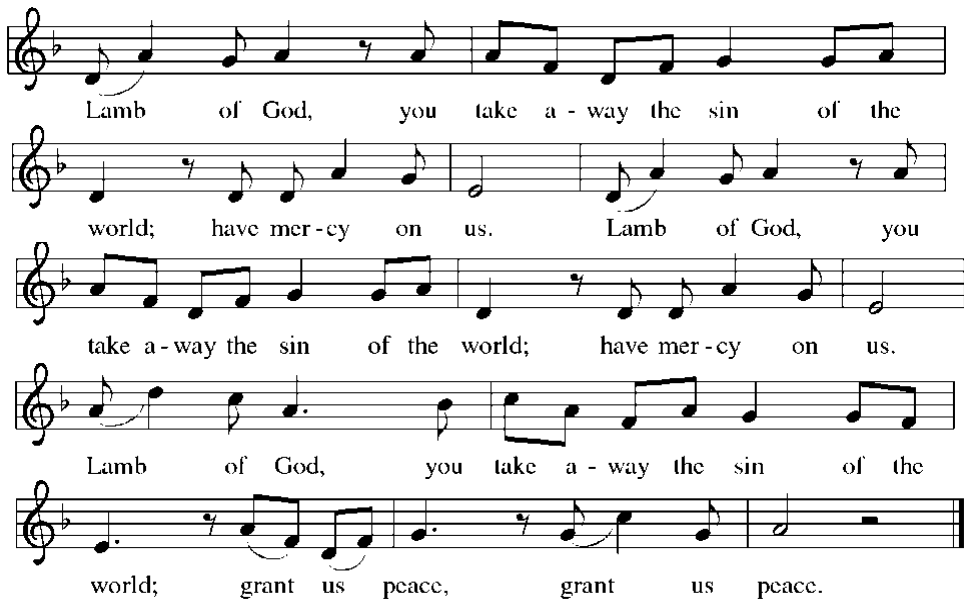
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

pg. 191

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 Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast! All are welcome.



Be Thou My Vision

ELW# 793

All My Hope on God Is Founded (time permitting)

ELW# 757

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION 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. Amen.

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

In Thee Is Gladness

ELW# 867

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Mark Ongalo, Organist

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Tom, Paul, Fred, Ellen, Steven, Gary, Chuck, Ron, Nadia, Butch, Mary, Ruth, Hudson, Wilson, Logan, Nel, Dan, Jim, Kyle, Cliff, Ryan, Alexandra W, Dan, Leslie, Shannon, Dale, Adeline, Sue, Jim, Wendy, Fred, Harry, Scooby, Larry, Caleb, Jake, Laurie, Mike, Tedd, Matthew, Rick & Betsy, Gordon, Ross, Anna, Archer, Sharon, Mary, Debbie, Leanne, Addy, Deb, Kyle, Gerilyn, Wally, Ralph, Sue.

Call the church office or Pastor if you have a prayer need: we can send it to the prayer chain if you desire. If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.

CONTACT US Office: 218-741-6207 Email: office@osclcmn.com
OSLC, 1111 8th St. South, Virginia, MN
Website: www.osclcmn.com www.facebook.com/osclcmn
YouTube Page "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN Office"

OFFICE ADMIN HOURS:

CLOSED MONDAYS & HOLIDAYS. OPEN TUES.– FRIDAY, 9AM-5PM

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS Pastor Liz is here Tues.–Thurs. & does visits etc., Mon. & Fri.
Call @ 218-780-8907 or email at lizcheney44@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Liz Cheney

Secretary: Colleen Brown Jacobson

Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Mark Ongalo, Jen Fredrickson, Anna & Jim De Foe



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

9th Sunday After Pentecost

VBS STARTS THIS EVE VBS is taking place at Gethsemane Lutheran Church this year – today through Wednesday. If you're children are attending or you're volunteering, it begins at 5pm and goes until 8pm. See you there!

WELCA NEWS FOR AUGUST The WELCA Laurentian Conference will hold a *Fall Gathering* planning meeting here if you are involved with that, **Wed. Aug. 12th at 10am**, with lunch served afterwards.

*Also, **Wed. Aug 19th All women of the congregation are invited to a picnic here at 12pm**, in our courtyard - weather permitting (inside if raining). Talk with Marcia about food and the details!

SPAGHETTI DINNER! The Scouting America Troop invites you to a **Spaghetti Dinner here, Friday, Aug. 14th 4-8pm**, coinciding with the Iron Range half-marathon! See the image, next page, for details.

SUMMER CHOIR It's been nice to hear the choir sing once in June and in July. Our "pick-up" choir will sing on Sunday, **August 16th** (8:30 a.m. practice). All who are interested in music are invited to join us - Come see what singing in the choir is like and have some fun with us!

GUATEMALA UPDATE The house was completed in June! Take a look at the pictures on the glass cabinet in the narthex (also in the July newsletter) and the special "Thank you" from Juan & Elda and their children, and Shawn & Brad of Recycled Lives. *Thank you for making this possible!*

BOOK STUDY GROUP! Join us as we study a wonderful classic titled, "*Falling Upward.*" We will read a chapter together and hold open discussion afterwards- which has been quite enjoyable. Dates & time are: **Aug. 13 & 27, 12-1pm**, in the Fireside Room.

WELCA & Fun-Duh-Mentals BIBLE STUDY The WELCA Study will be held **Aug. 4th & Aug. 18th @ 1pm**, and Fun-Duh-Mentals Bible Study on Ruth will be **Aug. 4th & Aug. 18th @ 4pm**. Both studies are open & do not require you to be seasoned with Bible Studies!

**All three Book studies above provide opportunity at different times during the month to explore spiritual life & build relationships; join us when you can!*

WORSHIP SPONSORSHIP Today's Livestream is sponsored by Tom Klabecek, in loving memory of wife Jarie. *Thank you for your support.* To sponsor Livestream & TV Broadcasts in honor of a person or special event (wedding annivers., birthday, graduation etc..) or in memory of a loved one, you may do so in any amount- It helps maintain our sound/camera equipment. See the kiosk/glass cabinet in the narthex to sign up. *Your support is appreciated.*

<u>THIS WEEK @ OSLC:</u> JULY 27 10:30AM AA 2 PM ORGAN PR. 5PM VBS @ GELC 6PM SCOUTS 7PM NA	JULY 28 10:30AM AA 2 PM ORGAN PR. 5PM VBS@GELC	JULY 29 9AM QUILTING 10:30AM AA 12-3PM C.CLOSET 2 PM ORGAN PR. 5PM VBS@GELC 5:30PM ALANON	JULY 30 10:30AM AA 2:30PM TOPS 6PM CUB SCOUTS 7PM NA W. WING	JULY 31 10:30AM AA 7PM NA W.WING	AUGUST 1 10:30AM AA
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Pipe Project Together, we can!

Received as of 12/31/25

\$173,649.09

Received in January

\$2,323.56

Received in February

\$6,986.66

Received in March

\$92,364.57

Received in April

\$7,360.82

Received as of 5/31

\$7043.86

Received as of 5/31/26

\$289,728.46

Outstanding pledges
\$18,898.17

Endowment Fund balance
\$26,730.96

New estimated project total

\$384,000 +/-

Payment #1 9/30/25 \$138,000

Payment #2 5/18/26 \$133,765.25

Other bills: Abatement \$2000

Carpentry work: \$2917.25 as of 6/24

\$460,000

\$384,000

On hand \$15193.99

\$133,

765.25

pd

5.18.26

\$138,000

9/30/25

Needed

\$48,642.41

\$378,000

+ carpentry work

aprx \$3,000

Estimated goal =

\$381,000 +/-



**THE HANSEN COUNTRY
PRODUCE STAND IS OPEN!**

WED - SUN 10AM-6PM



IN
CONJUNCTION
WITH THE
IRON RANGE
HALF
MARATHON

SCOUTING AMERICA
TROOP 4129
SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER



**AUGUST 14, 2026
4:00 - 8:00PM**

**OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**1111 8TH STREET S
VIRGINIA**

**\$10/ADULT
\$5/12 & UNDER**

Prepay via Venmo
or pay at the door.

@Troop4129



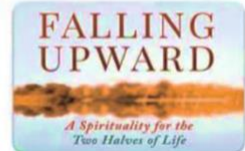
venmo

Donations are also
welcome

**2nd and 4th Thursdays
Noon-1pm**

Join us for a book study
this summer. No need to read
ahead, we will read together

All are welcome!



Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia

COMMUNITY CLOSET PANTRY

Below are the following challenge items for the pantry. You can buy what you desire & at the store that is most convenient for you; we just provide examples of most commonly needed items for the week and give examples of spending \$10 or less.

We appreciate all donations!

1. HOT DOGS @ WALMART
VARIOUS BRANDS, \$1.00-\$2.84/8-10 COUNT
2. GREAT VALUE LUNCH MEAT @ WALMART (IN BLUE PLASTIC BIN)
\$3.57/9OZ TURKEY, HAM, CHICKEN
3. GREAT VALUE PEANUT BUTTER @ WALMART
\$1.98/16OZ JAR
4. YOGURT CUPS @ WALMART
\$2.26/4PK GREAT VALUE, \$.77 EA.YOPLAIT ORIGINALS
5. DELI CHEESE SLICES @ ALDI'S
\$1.49/8OZ PKGE, VARIETY
6. WHEAT OR WHITE BREAD @ ALDI'S
\$1.45/20 OZ LOAF



God Pause for Monday, July 20, 2026

1 Kings 3:5-12 (NRSV)

[Read 1 Kings 3:5-12 on biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com)

⁵At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

Devotion: This is a good day for a God pause. Let's do it. The reading in 1 Kings tells of the young King Solomon having a dream in which God says, "Ask what should I give you?" The young Solomon faces great responsibility to be the new king following his father, David. He doesn't even know how to behave as a king going in and out in a procession. What's he going to do? Solomon asked God for understanding and a wise and discerning mind. Wisdom is what he needed. You and I face challenges and responsibilities each day. We wonder how we'll get through it. When facing a confounding challenge, it's good to ask God for an understanding, wise, and discerning mind. In these fast changing, often overwhelming times, that's what I need. How about you?

Prayer: Lord, we, too, ask for the gifts of discernment and wisdom in our lives. We face many challenges, responsibilities, and uncertainties. Ground us and the decisions we make in your gracious love. Amen.

Don Knudson '70 M.Div.Board Certified Professional Chaplain, Retired Life Member; Member, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Burnsville, MN